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Abu Nowar: No separate peace treaty

DOHA (Petra) — Information Minister Maan Abu Nowar has said Jordan would not sign a unilateral peace agreement with Israel and described reports in Israeli media on this subject as false and fabricated. In an interview with the Qatari Arabic daily Al Arab, Dr. Abu Nowar said Jordan "seeks a just and comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict based on international legitimacy and United Nations Security Council resolutions 242, 338 and 425 and the land-for-peace principle." He noted that Jordan has signed an agenda with Israel covering important issues to be discussed between the two sides. Such issues include the restoration of Jordanian territories occupied by Israel and water, environment, refugees and security issues. Dr. Abu Nowar emphasised the need for closer inter-Arab coordination, particularly at this delicate stage, and called for rebuilding Arab solidarity. He praised Qatar's policy on inter-Arab reconciliation and its efforts to ensure inter-Arab accord. "Qatar's position in this respect is not new since Qatar has always sought to base Arab relations on mutual respect and sincere cooperation," Dr. Abu Nowar said.

Russian vice-president arrives for talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Russia's First Vice President Vladimir Chomeko arrived here Friday at the head of an economic and trade delegation on a several-day visit to Jordan for talks with senior Jordanian officials on bilateral cooperation. Mr. Chomeko will take part in the first Jordanian-Russian meeting, organised by the Hashemite Association for International Economic Cooperation. The Russian official was received by Information Minister Maan Abu Nowar, Minister of Industry and Trade Bassam Al Saket, Justice Minister Rafea Al Wazani and senior officials.

Cyprus offers to host Israel-PLO talks

NICOSIA (AP) — Cyprus has offered to host part of the peace negotiations between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Foreign Minister Alecos Michaelides said Friday. Mr. Michaelides, who returned from a visit to Israel the previous day, said his Israeli counterpart Shimon Peres welcomed the Cypriot proposal as "a very good idea."

'Libya will never surrender suspects'

MANAMA (AFP) — Libya will never hand over the two suspects of the 1988 Lockerbie bombing, even if it came under nuclear attack, senior Libyan diplomat Ibrahim Al Beshari said Friday. By tightening the U.N. sanctions against Libya, the United States, Britain and France "have closed the door to any option for judging the two accused Libyan outside Libya, even if these countries drop an atomic bomb on us," Mr. Beshari told the London-based daily Al Hayat. "Thousands of Libyans are dying because of these unfair sanctions but we are ready to hold on another hundred years."

Bill offered against boycott participants

WASHINGTON (R) — A bill to bar U.S. military equipment and services to any country that participates in the Arab economic boycott against Israel was introduced on Thursday in the House of Representatives. "The purpose of this legislation is to send a signal to those nations and international organisations that continue to support the Arab boycott against Israel that the time has come to change," said New York Republican Ben Gilman.

Senate appointment sets stage for 12th Parliament

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — With the issuance on Thursday of a Royal Decree naming 40 members of the Upper House Parliament (Senate), the stage has been set for the convening of Parliament on Tuesday.

During Tuesday's joint session of the Senate and the Lower House, His Majesty King Hussein will deliver the speech from the Throne that details government policies in the next stage.

Twenty-three of the 40 senators are newcomers. The Senate includes five former prime ministers: Bahjat Al Talhoum, Ahmad Al Lawzi, Zeid Rifai, Mudar Badran and Ahmad Obaidat, as well as incumbent Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali.

Newcomers include former Prime Minister Zeid Rifai. Among the senators who were not reappointed are two

party secretary generals: Akef Al Fayed of the Al Watan Party and Ishak Farhan of the Islamic Action Front (IAF).

Nawaf Al Oadi, who ran for elections in the Northern Bedouin district and won, was also replaced.

Also replaced was president of the Centre for the Study of Freedoms, Democracy and Human Rights in the Arab World, Najib Al Rashdan, whose daughter Naila, a leading woman activist, took his seat, bringing to two the number of the women in the senate.

The other woman Senator is incumbent Laila Sharaf, a former minister of information.

Among the newcomers are two serving ministers, Maan Abu Nuwar (Information) and Jawad Al Anani (Prime Ministry Affairs).

Also joining the new senate is Abdul Latif Arabiyat, the Muslim Brotherhood speaker

of the Lower House for the last three years who failed to win reelection.

According to the Constitution, members of the Senate are chosen by the King from former high-ranking officials or personalities that contributed great services to the country. It has been customary that the Senate would include representatives of Jordan's geographical areas.

Accordingly, the bedouin regions are represented by Mashour Abu Tayeh (South), Sitan Al Madi (North) and Sami Al Fayed (Centre). In addition to Dr. Arabiyat, two former members of Parliament joined the Senate. They are Thougban Al Hindawi, a former deputy prime minister and education minister, and Marwan Al Hmoud, also a former minister.

One former intelligence chief, Naeher Rashid, retained his seat. Two others,



Ahmad Lawzi

Mohammad Rasoul Kilani and Tareq Alaaeddin. The new senate includes 20 former ministers. They are: Ahmad Tarawneh (Justice);

Izzeddin Mufti (Finance); Abdullah Salah (foreign affairs); Thougban Hindawi (education); Habes Majali (defence); Amer Khammash (Royal Court); Jamal Nasser (interior/justice/finance) Ma'n Abu Nuwar (information); Kamel Abu Jaber (foreign affairs); Marwan Hmoud (agriculture and municipal and rural affairs); Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat (Awqaf); Rajai Muasher (trade); Kamel Sharif (Awqaf); Said Tal (education); Taher Hikmat (information, culture and tourism); Jawad Anani (labour and trade); Laila Sharaf (information); Nasereddin Al Assad (higher education); and Jawdat Shoul (interior).

Among those who left the Senate is General Khalid Al Tarawneh, who ran for elections for the Lower House from Karak but lost. Former ministers who lost seats in-

clude: Subhi Amin Amr, Ibrahim Ayyoub, Jafar Al Shami, Omar Al Nabulsi, Ishak Al Farhan, Marwan Al Qassem, and Ibrahim Izzeddin.

Following is the full Senate:

Abdul Salam Al Majali (new), Bahjat Al Talhoum, Ahmad Al Lawzi, Zeid Al Rifai (new), Mudar Badran, Ahmad Obaidat, Ahmad Tarawneh (new), Izzeddin Al Mufti (new), Abdullah Salah, Thougban Hindawi (new), Habes Majali, Amer Khammash, Jamal Nasser (new), Salem Masaadeh, Ma'n Abu Nuwar (new), Kamel Abu Jaber (new), Marwan Al Hmoud (new), Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat (new), Rajai Muasher (new), Kamel Sharif, Taher Hikmat (new), Jawad Al Anani (new), Laila Sharaf, Nasereddin Al Assad (new), Abdul Latif Arabiyat (new), Jawdat Al Shoul (new), Mohammad Odeh Al Qura'an, Nazir Rashid, Daoud Hamania, Abdul Majid Shou-

man, Ahmad Saud Al Adwan, Ashraf Al Kurdi (new), Hamad Maa'itah (new), Ghath Shbeilat (new), Sami Mithqal Al Fayed (new), Mashhour Abu Tayeh (new), Naila Rashdan (new), and Sitan Mihem Al Madi (new).

Following are those who were replaced:

Akef Al Fayed, Bashir Al Sabbagh, Subhi Amin Amr, Ibrahim Ayyoub, Akram Zae'iter, Mohammad Rasoul Al Kilani, Jafar Al Shami, Omar Al Nabulsi, Ishak Al Farhan, Marwan Al Qassem, Ibrahim Izzeddin, Juman Hamad, Barjas Al Hadid, Mohammed Ali Budeir, Hamad Al Farhan, Nawaf Al Oadi, Najib Al Rashdan, Khalid Tarawneh, Tareq Alaaeddin, Amin Shugeir, Husni Ayyash, Khalaf Abu Nuwayr, and Ibrahim Taqqiddin.

Mr. Ahmad Lawzi retained his post as speaker of the Senate.

Masri favourite for House speaker

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Former Prime Minister and Amman deputy Taher Masri appears set to win the speakership of the Lower House of Parliament when the House convenes Nov. 23 barring any last minute alliances against his nomination, most parliamentary observers believe.

Mr. Masri, who has yet to officially announce his candidacy, was apparently assured of the support of a bloc of 30-35 deputies of the Lower House which, even though not enough to guarantee his success in the first round of voting, would almost confirm him as the leader of the House in a second round of voting. According to House internal rules the contender for the speakership has to secure no less than 41 votes to win in

the first round or a simple majority in a rerun.

With the formal announcement of the formation of three parliamentary blocs — with a total of 44 deputies — Mr. Masri, according to observers, is not likely to gain the required 41 votes in the first round.

The 18-member Islamic Action Front (IAF) parliamentary bloc has already nominated Tafleeh deputy Abdullah Akaleh for the speakership post. Mr. Akaleh, a former minister of education and an incumbent, is the IAF deputy secretary general.

Another 18-member bloc, which was formally named the National Action Front (NAF), has yet to name its candidate for speaker but, according to parliamentary sources, is expected to propose Zaqqa deputy Abdul Baqi Jammo, a Circassian, as a



Taher Masri

contender for the post.

The eight-member Jordan National Front (JNA), headed by Irbid deputy Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh, was also announced as a formal parliamentary bloc but has not yet fielded a candidate for the speakership. If the IAF, NAF and JAA

put their 44-member weight against Mr. Masri and in support of another candidate in the second round of voting, Mr. Masri could technically lose.

But most parliamentary sources and observers expect that the IAF parliamentary bloc, in case its candidate Akaleh lost in the first round, would more likely support Mr. Masri's bid than that of Sheikh Jammo if only because Jammo's bloc, the NAF, is expected to give Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali's government a vote of confidence. The IAF, according to IAF insiders, is expected to withhold confidence from Dr. Majali's government.

Mr. Masri, however, could also lose if Mr. Akaleh decided to go to the second round and the NAF made a deal with the Islamists over the confidence vote.

3 blocs gear up for Tuesday's session

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Preparing for Tuesday's opening session of the 12th Parliament and the election of a speaker of the Lower House for next year, political parties and deputies are jockeying to form blocs and alliances. Until now, three main blocs grouping 44 deputies have been formed. A fourth is likely to be formed in the next few days. The three blocs are the Jordanian National Front (JNF) made of eight deputies and four political parties, the National Action Front (NAF) that groups 18 deputies and is led by Al Ahd Party Secretary General Abdul Hadi Majali and the bloc of 18 Islamic Action Front (IAF) deputies.

The JNF, formed on Wednesday, includes eight deputies who belong to four parties: Mohammad Thoub (Amman's Second District) and Fayyad Jarar (Zaqqa) of

Al Watan (Homeland) led by Akef Al Fayed; Ibrahim Samara (Ramtha and Beni Kenana) and Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh (Irbid) of Al Yahatha (Renaissance) led by Mr. Rawabdeh himself; Jamal Khreisheh (Central Bedouin district), Mohammad Najad (Southern Bedouin district), Ishaq Farah (Amman Sixth District) and Naqaf Al Oadi (Northern Bedouin district) of the Jordanian National Alliance (JNA) led by Mijhem Al Khreisheh; The Party for (Progress and Justice) led by Ali Farid Al Saad is also a member of alliance but has no deputies in Parliament.

The second bloc (JNF), formed also on Wednesday, includes 18 deputies who are mainly members or supporters of Al Ahd Party in addition to traditionalists. They are Abdul Majid Azzam (Irbid), Munir Sobar (Amman Fifth District), Abdul Hadi Al Majali (Karak), Hatem Ghazawi (Koura and

the Jordan Valley), Mifteh Al Lawzi (Amman Fifth District), Ahmad Al Oudah (Ajloun), Abdullah Akhou Shbeilat (Maftaq), Mifteh Ruheimi (Jerash), Hani Hijazin (Irbid), Taha Hababeh (Ma'an), Rafea Saoud (Tafleeh), Fawaz Zoubi (Ramtha), Farah Rahadi (Ajloun), Nader Abul Sha'r (Irbid), Khaled Abdul Nabi Ajarmeh (Amman Fifth District), Abdul Baqi Gammo (Zaqqa), an independent Islamist, Hashem Dabbas (Balqa) and Fawzi Tu'minah (Balqa), who has been named the front's spokesman.

The third bloc, which consists of the IAF's 16 deputies in addition to two other members who ran independently, is unlikely to attract to its bloc at parliament any of the three independent Islamists — Abdul Baqi Gammo, who has already joined the JNF bloc, Abdul Razzaq Tubeishat, who with-

drew from the IAF along with 16 independents last year in protest against the way in which the Front's council elections were carried out, and Jamal Sarairoh, a moderate Islamist.

The IAF's 18 members are: Abdul Aziz Jaber (Amman First District), Abdul Mun'em Abu Zant and Hamzeh Mansour (Amman Second District), Ibrahim Kilani (Amman Third District), Ahmad and Abdul Rahim Akour (Irbid), Suleiman Khalaf Raimoni (Jerash), Mohammad Oweida (Balqa), Ahmad Kasasbeh (Karak), Badr Riyati (Ma'an), Bassam Amoush, Mohammad Al Haj and Theb Anis (Zaqqa), Daifallah Al Momani (Ajloun) and Abdullah Akaleh (Tafleeh). The two others who ran independently are Theeb Abdullah Khatat (Amman First District) and Abdul Majid Al Aqtash (Amman Sixth district).

Juppe finds Jordan ready for increased regional cooperation

France understands Jordan's burden of foreign debt, will help through Paris Club

By P.V. Vivekanand
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — French Foreign Minister Alain Juppe, who wound up a trip to the Middle East after talks with Lebanese leaders Friday, has found Jordan highly receptive to the concept of regional economic cooperation now that progress has been made in the two-year-old Middle East peace process, official and diplomatic sources said Friday.

The sources, commenting on the outcome of Mr. Juppe's brief visit to Jordan Thursday afternoon following talks with Syrian leaders in Damascus, described the minister's meeting with His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan as highly positive.

"Mr. Juppe left Amman highly satisfied that Jordan now stands ready to increase its involvement in regional economic cooperation envisaged under the multilateral phase of the peace process," one source told the Jordan Times.

Mr. Juppe, addressing a press conference at Marka airport shortly before his departure for Lebanon, said France was offering its "help to advance the peace process" and create "a positive atmosphere" for the peace negotiations to achieve success.

He reiterated his country's total support for the Sept. 13 accord between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisa-

tion (PLO) and said it was vital that the process continues uninterrupted.

"The continuing violence in the occupied territories and the developments in South Lebanon are of high concern to France," said Mr. Juppe, whose comments in French were translated into Arabic by an interpreter.

He called on all parties to accelerate the peace negotiations.

Asked whether financial assistance to Jordan was discussed during his talks here, Mr. Juppe said France understood the "heavy" foreign debt burden the Kingdom shoulders and that Paris was "more than willing" to address this issue in the framework of Amman's negotiations with the Paris Club of creditor governments on debt rescheduling next year.

France is Jordan's second largest creditor, holding about \$900 million of the Kingdom's \$6.88 billion foreign debts. The U.S. ranks as the first with \$950 million.

France will be offering about 80 million French francs (JD 10 million) in direct financial aid to Jordan for the year 1994. A related protocol is expected to be signed during the visit of a French delegation to Jordan next month.

Mr. Juppe said France was one of the prime movers behind a European Community (EC) programme for economic development in the Middle

East. The programme, worth one billion European Currency Units (about \$1.2 billion), will include Jordan and will be implemented when "substantial progress" has been achieved in the peace process, he said.

No further details of the programme were immediately available.

Reporting on his visit to Damascus, Mr. Juppe said he found the Syrian leaders "very keen on seeing progress in the peace process" and called for Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights in return for Damascus normalising diplomatic, political, commercial and tourist relations with the Jewish state.

He denied that he sought to set up a summit meeting between Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and that Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres had requested that he exert efforts towards this end.

Sources close to Mr. Juppe said the minister left Damascus with "mixed feelings" after his talks with Mr. Assad and his Foreign Minister Farouk Al Shara.

"The impression is that Syria is going to take its own time" in the peace process, said one source. "President Assad rejected all reports of secret negotiations with Israel and insisted that the peace negotiations continue along the Madrid formula."

(Continued on page 10)

PLO lists 3 problems in talks with Israel

CAIRO (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) negotiator Nabil Shaath has said three issues remained to be solved in talks on Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho: Control of border crossing, defending Jericho, and release of Arab prisoners.

Dr. Shaath told a news conference after three days of secretive talks with Israeli officials that they had agreed many other points and he was optimistic a deal would be signed in time for the withdrawal to begin on schedule on Dec. 13.

He said the two sides had agreed that the only permanent military installations Israel would keep would be inside Jewish settlements.

"There will be Israeli military forces within the settlement areas," Dr. Shaath said. "There will be no Israeli military installations outside these areas."

He added that the two sides were still discussing the size

and make-up of patrols outside the settlements and arrangements to protect Jews using one or two east-west roads in Gaza that provide the shortest routes between their homes and Israel.

He said Jewish settlers would have "absolutely the right" to carry weapons outside their settlements.

Dr. Shaath said there had also been progress on the transfer of civil authority to Palestinians and resolving fishing rights, civil aviation rights, and access to radio and television frequencies.

But he said there were "three major areas of difficulty" that had to be settled by Dec. 13, the deadline set in a historic declaration of principles signed by the PLO and Israel in September.

Control of crossing points over the Jordan River into the Jericho area of the West Bank and into the Gaza Strip from Israel and Egypt.

(Continued on page 2)

3 convicts, including a woman, executed

AMMAN (J.T.) — Three people convicted of murder in three separate cases were hanged at Swaga prison south of Amman at dawn Thursday.

One of the three was a 26-year-old woman identified only as T.S. who, according to the court verdict, had poisoned her husband Mohammad Fahd, with pesticides mixed with juice.

The woman was said to have hit her husband on the head with a heavy brick to make sure that he was dead.

She later set fire to the house in a bid to conceal the trace of the crime. She confessed to committing the murder during investigations and in court.

According to reports, the woman frequently quarrelled with her husband and had an extra-marital affair.

(Continued on page 2)

Army orders crackdown on settler violence

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Army Chief of Staff General Ehud Barak ordered troops Friday to halt attacks by settlers on Palestinians a day after reinforcements were sent into the occupied territories, military sources said.

Palestinian "trouble-makers" would also be targeted in the crackdown after nearly three weeks of sporadic violence and counter-violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the sources said.

Soldiers have been told to hand over to the police any settlers caught breaking the law.

Israel pushed large numbers of reinforcements into the

occupied territories on Thursday fearing an escalation in the tense final weeks of autonomy negotiations before the army is scheduled to start withdrawing from Gaza and Jericho on Dec. 13.

"I understand your reactions," Gen. Barak told settlers south of Jerusalem on the West Bank, state radio reported. "But the army will not allow you to take the law into your own hands."

Gen. Barak had ordered "massive" reinforcements, the Yediot Aharanot newspaper reported, to patrol main roads and checkpoints following clashes with Palestinians in the Ramallah region after the shooting death of a schoolboy

on Tuesday. The daily said the decision reversed a "supple" policy adopted since the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) liberation the autonomy agreement on Sept. 13.

Nineteen Palestinians have been killed by Israeli bullets since Sept. 13 and Palestinians have killed eight Israelis over the same period.

Settlers seeking revenge for the killing of Israelis have shot and wounded a dozen Palestinians and damaged hundreds of cars and Arab property in the last three weeks.

Meanwhile, the head of the army's education department, Lieutenant-Colonel Yaakov Castel, has warned of brewing

revolt in Israeli society over the PLO autonomy move.

"Forcible opposition to the application of government decisions could lead to bloody conflict between Jews," he wrote in an internal report published by the Haaretz newspaper.

'Support for deal plunges'

Israeli support for the autonomy deal has plunged 13 points to 48 per cent since the accord was signed, an opinion poll published Friday showed.

Two days after the signing ceremony the Dahaf Institute found 61 per cent of Israeli Jews backed the agreement for limited autonomy.

France to expel Kurds after anti-PKK swoop

PARIS (AFP) — France will expel some of the 101 suspected Kurdish activists arrested in a country-wide sweep on Thursday because their residence permits are not in order, the interior ministry said.

During raids carried out in the Paris area, Marseille, Lyon and other cities, police found firebomb-making equipment and material for forging identity papers, the ministry said.

Documents were found showing Kurdish militants were extorting funds from the Turkish community "on a large scale" to finance the guerrilla activities in Turkey of the separatist Kurdish Labour Party (PKK), the ministry said.

The documents also showed the existence of "clandestine immigration networks."

The ministry said recent Kurdish attacks in France were "intolerable" and that it was "unacceptable that foreigners living under the protection of French law carry out terrorist or illegal actions."

Authorities said the swoop was ordered after intelligence reports showed that Kurds in France were about to launch a new, more violent campaign.

French foreign ministry

spokesman Richard Duque accused some of those arrested of showing "solidarity for taking French nationals hostage in Turkey," a reference to four French people kidnapped and held by Kurds for 18 days in July.

On June 24, five Kurds briefly seized about 10 people at the Turkish consulate in Marseille and a PKK commando attacked a Turkish airlines office and cultural centre in the eastern city of Lyon.

There have been repeated petrol bomb attacks on the Bosphorus Bank branch here, police said. Four people were injured, one of them seriously, in an Oct. 29 attack on the Turkish bank.

The foreign ministry spokesman said France did not consider that the PKK represented the aspirations of the Kurdish people and had condemned "PKK acts of terrorism" on several occasions.

Police say the PKK is active among Turkish Kurds living in France, Germany and Britain, and forces Kurdish businessmen in Europe to pay "revolutionary taxes" to fund its armed struggle.

Accounts seized during

Thursday's raids were being analysed for clues to this protection racket, police said.

Turkish Kurdish families have told French and German authorities that their sons were recruited in Europe and sent to fight with the guerrillas in Turkey.

While France has friendly relations with Turkey, President Francois Mitterrand and his wife Danielle, a veteran human rights campaigner, have shown sympathy for the Kurdish cause.

The police action came nine days after similar raids in six French cities against suspected Algerian Muslim fundamentalists, underscoring the conservative government's pledge to crack down on crime and foreign subversives operating in France.

Eighty-eight Algerians suspected of having ties to the country's fundamentalist Muslim insurgency and of plotting to harm French interests were taken in for questioning. Three were later arrested on terrorism charges, and four were expelled.

A police source said there was fear of renewed attacks by Kurdish militants.

Egyptian militants planned comeback to Imbaba

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian police arrested 21 Muslim militants seeking to reorganise a Cairo slum a year after a manhunt swept them out, security sources said Thursday.

A statement from the Interior Ministry said the militants had divided the million-strong slum of Imbaba into five districts to appoint local commanders and start recruiting.

The militants, some only recently released after being detained last year, received orders from leaders still in detention and planned to kill a dissident who left Al Gamaa Al Islamiya (the Islamic Group), the statement said.

It was the first security operation there since up to 12,000 police swept through the million-strong slum in December 1992 to crush militants then dominating many parts of the district.

Attacks by militants on tourist targets decimated Egypt's tourist industry and caused a sharp decline in earnings.

About 800 people were arrested in last year's operation. Security sources say many are still being held without charge.

In recent months, senior officials have set out to win over the population in Imbaba by visiting the area and starting a plan to improve services there.

"Police have been able to stop a complete plan by militant leaders in prison to restart the activity of extremist groups and reorganise its ranks inside the area of Imbaba," said the ministry statement, faxed to Reuters.

The militants met in a public park twice a week and organised sports to make members fit, the statement said. An employee in a press organisation also printed leaflets which the group distributed in the slum.

One of those appointed as a local commander in the slum held Palestinian nationality, the statement said, but security sources said there was no evidence of a link between him and Palestinian groups such as Hamas.

Estranged Yemeni leaders to meet soon

SANAA (R) — Yemen's estranged president and vice-president locked in a political dispute which has thrown their country into crisis, are likely to meet soon, a Yemeni newspaper reported.

The weekly Sawt Al Ummal, quoting high-placed political sources, gave no date but said the meeting was expected to be in Taiz, 60 kilometres north of the borders of what used to be South Yemen before it merged with the North in 1990.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh and Vice-President Ali Salem Al Baeedh, who ran the North and the South respectively before the merger, have not met for three months and their differences over reforms have paralysed the government.

Sawt Al Ummal is published in Aden, capital of former South Yemen which was ruled by Mr. Baeedh and his Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) until 1990.

The paper, known for its close links with the YSP, quoted the sources as saying that Deputy Premier Mujahid Abu Shawarab, "who appears to enjoy the confidence of both sides, has succeeded in his efforts aimed at holding such a meeting to bypass the political crisis."

YSP sources, quoted by the paper, said the party had no objection to such a meeting "but ruled out its being held... before the emergence of progress in dialogues now under-

way."

Political sources said that appeared to be a reference to mediation efforts by the parliament and the cabinet.

The YSP and Mr. Saleh's General People's Congress (GPC) ruled unified Yemen until last April's elections, when the Islam Islamic Party became a member of the ruling coalition.

Mr. Baeedh retired to his YSP stronghold in Aden in July, called for reforms and boycotted all state functions in Sanaa, including his own swearing-in ceremony.

Political sources said the crisis reflected "deep mistrust" between Mr. Saleh and Mr. Baeedh. The YSP says Mr. Saleh's party is trying to run everything its own way, turning unification into annexation.

The YSP says 150 of its members have been killed since the merger. Prime Minister Haider Abu Bakr Al Attas, also of the YSP, has accused army officers of involvement in political assassinations.

The armed forces have pledged neutrality in the crisis.

But press reports, especially in newspapers published in Aden, continue to publish reports on troop movements and alleged attempts to smuggle weapons and ammunition to the South.

Mr. Baeedh's nephew was killed and his son came under fire in separate attacks recently.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Famine fears raised in Eritrea

NAIROBI (AFP) — An Eritrean relief organisation has appealed to the government and non-governmental organisations to help avert "imminent famine" in Eritrea following failure of this year's harvest, Eritrean radio reported. The radio quoted a joint study conducted by Eritrean Agriculture Ministry and the country's grain board which, it said, "had found that almost all of Eritrea's seven provinces had lost 80 per cent of this year's harvest." It said the study predicted that the yield from this year's harvest would fall well short of the food needed to feed the population next year, despite the fact that a large area of land had been ploughed for this year's harvest and farmers had made greater effort. The study, which was conducted in more than 270 villages across Eritrea last month, said crops had failed this year "because of last year's rain came at an unexpected time and that locusts and other pests also caused great damage."

Turkey angered by Greece-Cyprus umbrella

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin said Thursday a Greek move to include Cyprus in its defence planning would have a "negative effect" on talks for a peaceful solution on the divided island. "There is a process underway for the solution of the Cyprus problem," Anatolian news agency quoted him as saying. "This kind of declaration and interference will have a negative effect." Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu said on Tuesday after talks with Cypriot President Glafcos Clerides that the defence line of Greece would include Cyprus and that any Turkish offensive would lead to war between Greece and Turkey. Mr. Cetin said the decision showed that the Greek and Greek-Cypriot side continued to deny the Turkish-Cypriot presence and to see Cyprus as a "Greek island." Turkish forces occupied the northern third of Cyprus in 1974 following a coup in Nicosia orchestrated by the military junta then ruling Greece. North Cyprus declared itself a republic in 1983 but has been recognised only by Turkey. The Turkish Foreign Ministry said the Greek government was no more constructive on the Cyprus problem than when Mr. Papandreu, elected on Oct. 10, was in power between 1981 and 1989. "Papandreu did not make any constructive contribution towards the negotiations for a resolution to the Cyprus problem the last time he was in government," spokesman Ferhat Ataman said. "The statements of the new Greek government about Cyprus, its pan-Hellenic approach, and the declaration after... Clerides' visit to Greece give us increasingly less cause for hope about the future of the negotiations," Mr. Ataman said.

WFP continues relief in southern Sudan

NAIROBI (AFP) — The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) for the first time airdropped 32 tonnes of cereal food on Friday to some 5,000 drought-stricken people at Maiwut in southern Sudan's eastern Upper Nile, WFP said in a statement released here. A further airdrop was scheduled for Saturday to give the area a 30-day food security, the statement said. The deliveries followed a just-completed six-week mission throughout southern Sudan which found Maiwut severely affected by drought. That caused crop failure and deteriorated livestock and fishing conditions. The new delivery will bring to more than 55,000 tonnes relief food already delivered to southern Sudan from northern Sudan, Kenya and Uganda, considerably surpassing deliveries of the past two years.

Witness found in shooting of Rushdie publisher

OSLO (R) — Norwegian police said Thursday they had found an important witness of the shooting last month of the Norwegian publisher of Salman Rushdie's controversial book "The Satanic Verses." "It's the highest step forward of the investigation," Leif Lier, the police chief heading the investigation, said. He told Reuters a woman had come forward and given the clearest description yet of the gunman or a possible accomplice involved in the shooting of William Nygaard, head of publishers Aschehoug. Police were to Friday publish a drawing of the man who was seen by the woman running away from Mr. Nygaard's house in an Oslo suburb after she heard shooting. Mr. Nygaard, 50, is recovering from wounds suffered when he was shot three times from behind.

Russia, Kuwait to stage naval exercise

KUWAIT (R) — Russia and Kuwait will stage their first joint war games — a naval exercise — in late December, a Russian embassy official said. "The purpose of these manoeuvres is to enhance friendship between the two countries," the official said. The exercises would include a Russian anti-submarine ship and would be performed in Kuwaiti waters under an accord signed by Russian and Kuwaiti officials in the emirate on Nov. 15, the official, who would not be named, told Reuters. The official said the games would be the first military exercises between Kuwait and Russia or any forces of the former Soviet Union. He did not know if they would be the first between any Gulf state and Russian or formerly Soviet forces. The exercises, involving three Russian ships, would take place in the last 10 days of December and last about a week. The official did not know how many Kuwaiti ships would take part. The Russian ships sailed from Vladivostok on Thursday, the official said. The Kuwaiti Defence Ministry declined to comment. Kuwait and Russia are expected to sign a separate defence accord later this year under which Russia is expected to agree to help guarantee the emirate's security and involve itself in military and technical cooperation.

Kurds release two Western tourists

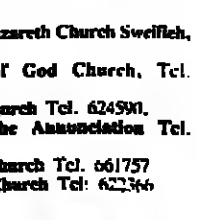
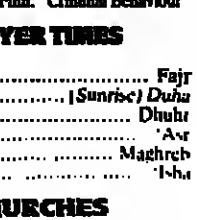
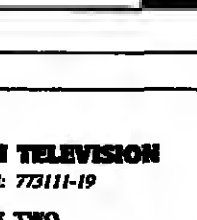
ANKARA (R) — Separatist Kurdish guerrillas have released an American and a New Zealander kidnapped last month in eastern Turkey, diplomats said on Friday. The U.S. embassy said Colin Patrick Stanger and a New Zealander, identified by his captors as Douglas Wentworth Howard Ellis, had been freed overnight near the eastern town of Pulumur. The two men were believed to be unarmed.

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3 executed

(Continued from page 1)

Another convict executed Thursday was a 54-year-old man identified only as S.A., who was convicted of killing a man in a debt dispute.

The court verdict said the man had committed premeditated murder after the victim failed to pay all the debt owed to him for the construction of a house.

The court said that the man lured the victim to a house under construction, shot him point blank and dumped the body in an old well.

The third convict hanged Thursday was a 22-year-old youth who was found guilty of killing the wife of his uncle and her male neighbour.

PLO problems

(Continued from page 1)

— The size of the area of Jericho.

— Release of thousands of Palestinians imprisoned by Israel.

Dr. Shaath said he hoped Israel would agree to abandon the small, isolated settlement of Netzarim in Gaza because of the practical difficulties of ensuring its security. He said it consisted of only 70 people.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 P/E El Heracle

17:45 L'Ecole Des Fars

18:30 Benammar

19:00 News in French

19:15 Ushuaia

19:30 News in Hebrew

20:00 The Pencil Boys

21:00 De Boat's On

21:30 Perspective

22:00 News in English

22:30 Feature Film: "Criminal Behavior"

PRAYER TIMES

06:43 Fajr

06:03 (Sunrise) Dhuhr

11:21 Dhuhr

14:14 Asr

16:38 Maghrib

17:59 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifish, Tel. 510740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624991

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terramachi Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 625543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 625256

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 624328

German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 633024, 654932

Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Temperatures will continue to rise with clouds appearing at different altitudes, and winds will be southeasterly light to moderate. In Aqaba, it will be dusty, which will be northerly moderate to active and seas calm.

Amman Min./Max. temp. 12/31

Aqaba 18/27

Desert 9/22

Jordan Valley 14/22

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Jamil Tarif 794710

Dr. Abbas Al Hakim 854446

Dr. Fayez Al Dahbas 759155

Dr. Mukhlis Mazharah 820425

Firas pharmacy 661912

Al Azzam pharmacy 670356

Nairokh pharmacy 623672

Al Salam pharmacy 636730

Yacoub pharmacy 644945

Shamsi pharmacy 627660

Najib pharmacy 647632

DRUGS

Dr. Mohammad Al Khalil 277757

Al Quds Pharmacy 1-1

ZARQA:

Dr. Samir Al Lawzi 980041

Khalifah pharmacy 985417

Yesterday's high temperatures:

Amman 22, Aqaba 25, Humidity readings: Amman 35 per cent, Aqaba 47 per cent.

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111

Civil Defence Department 661111

Rescue 630341

Civil Defence Emergency 109

Rescue Police 02-621111, 637777

Fire Brigade 891228

Blow Bank 843402

Highway Police 896391

Traffic Police 896391

Public Security Department 64021

Hotel Complaints 661800

Water and Sewerage 661176

Complaints 897467

Amman Municipality 787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 010231

Central Amman Telephone Repairs 623101

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 774110

Radio Jordan 681101

Water Authority 681101

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power Company 636381

RJ Flight Information 08-52304

Queen Alia Intl. Airport 08-52304

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Hussein Medical Centre 813811, 12

Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 642411

Akhil Maternity, J. Amn 642411

Mulhas, J. Amman 642362

Palestine, Shmashan 641714

Shmashan Hospital 669131

University Hospital 845843

Al-Muasher Hospital 667237

The Islamic, Abdali 666275

Al-Ahli, Abdali 661040

Italian, Al-Muhajreen 771013

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafiah 751113

Army, Marka 891611, 15

Queen Alia Hospital 642340-50

Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:

Zarqa Gov. Hospital 019981321

Zarqa National Hospital 019901561

Ibn Sina Hospital 019968732

Al-Ibrah Modern Hospital 019199801

IRBIDI:

Princess Basma Hospital 012125554

Greek Catholic Hospital 01212575

Ibn Al-Nakhs Hospital 012127100

AQABA:

Princess Haya Hospital 013134111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. 01913305, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

05:30 Jakarta, Singapore (RJ)

05:35 New Delhi (RJ)

05:45 Amman (RJ)

05:50 Dhahran (RJ)

05:55 Karachi, Ouba (RJ)

06:00 Beirut (RJ)

06:05 Colombo (RJ)

06:10 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)

06:15 Cairo (RJ)

06:20 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)

06:25 London (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

04:20 Vienna (OJA)

04:30 Sanaa (IY)

04:35 Rome (AZ)

04:45 Dubai (EM)

DEPARTURES

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:00 Beirut (RJ)

07:00 Amman (RJ)

07:30 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)

11:30 Paris, Brussels (RJ)

11:45 Geneva, Madrid (RJ)

12:05 London (RJ)

12:45 Cairo (RJ)

12:50 Damascus (RJ)

20:15 Bahrain, Dhahran (RJ)

20:30 Jeddah (RJ)

20:45 Damascus (RJ)

21:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:30 Beirut (ME)

11:30 Sanaa (IY)

11:40 Vienna (OJA)

12:30 Vienna (OJA)

18:35 Rome (AZ)

19:45 Dubai (EM)

22:55 Damascus, Paris (AF)

00:15 Amsterdam (KL)

00:30 Cairo (MS)

HUAZ RAILWAY TRAIN

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MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in Jds per kg.

Apple 754/845

Banana 600

Banana (Mukammal) 620

Carrot 140/160

Cauliflower 240/260

Clementine 180/200

Cucumbers (large) 150/180

Cucumbers (small) 200/230

Eggplant 250/280

Garlic 400/450

Grapes 650/700

Guava 400/450

Lemon 150/180

Marrow (large) 150/180

Marrow (small) 300/350

Mushrooms 450/500

Onions (green) 550/600

Onions (dry) 300/350

Onion (green) 250/300

Pepper (hot) 300/350

Pepper (sweet) 300/350

Potato 320/350

Tomato 200/250

Spinach 200/250

JSCEP plans environmental workshop week for women

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian Society for the Control of Environmental Pollution (JSCEP), in cooperation with the German Friedrich-Naumann Foundation, is organising, within the National Environmental Information and Education Programme (NEIEP), a one-week environmental workshop for women leaders starting Nov. 20 at Ashtar Hotel in Ma'in.

Representing the Queen Abla Fund for Social Development, Noor Al Hussein Foundation, the Ministry of Education, the Professional Women's Association, the Housing and Urban Development Corporation and the media, 32 women participants will be educated on local, regional and global environmental problems including some local and international disaster cases.

The 6-day intensive programme will tackle different

topics such as environmental policies in Jordan, man and nature, the local and global state of the environment, environment and population growth, environmental home management, water management and rain harvesting, agriculture and environment, solid and liquid waste in Jordan, environment and industry and trade, and human rights and the environment.

Case studies will be presented on the chlorine factory in Jordan, the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska, the Bhopal Union Carbide Factory in India, the Khirbet Al Samra Water Treatment Plant and Azraq.

Participants will be divided into working groups to analyse the cases and work to find solutions to problems presented.

The programme also includes a field trip to the water harvesting pilot project in

Mowwaqar, the plastic recycling factory and the glass recycling factory.

Several environmental films will be shown and later discussed during the workshop.

The event aims to increase awareness and knowledge and activate women who distinguished themselves as serious and active members in tackling and handling environmental issues, according to a JSCEP statement issued Wednesday.

The 32 women chosen to participate in the workshop are known to be good communicators who will multiply the knowledge into their grass roots work, said the statement.

The NEIEP programme for 1994, added the statement, will schedule more of this kind of activity as its programme will aim at providing more trained people in the field of environment who will become liaison communicators disseminating environmental knowledge to the society.

Cable thefts paralyse some telephone services

By Rana Hussein
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Periodically telephone cable theft occurs somewhere in the Kingdom, paralyzing telephone communications within the area where cables have been stolen.

The latest incident involved five people who were arrested by Ma'an police for allegedly stealing telephone cables belonging to the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC).

According to a police report, a pickup truck carrying a group of people was pulled over and searched. Police found stolen telephone cables and tools allegedly used in pulling the cables down from the telephone poles.

The report said police seized the tools and took the suspects into custody pending further investigations.

This incident is one of many the TCC has faced occasionally since 1987, according to Iyad Innab, director general assistant for governorates at the TCC. People climb telephone poles and remove the cables and attempt to sell the copper wires from inside the cables," said Mr. Innab.

"I believe the recession the country has suffered since 1987 is the reason why some individuals have resorted to stealing telephone cables."

Mr. Innab told the Jordan Times the TCC is bearing the heaviest burden because such attacks are costing the company tremendous amounts of money and effort, compared to the little amount of money

the robbers gain from selling the cables.

"When cables are stolen, TCC workers are forced to leave their regular work duties and go to remote areas to replace the stolen cables," Mr. Innab explained.

He said the company imports the cables which are costly, and there is a waiting period before the purchased cables arrive.

He said the TCC is now purchasing telephone cables without copper to deter this unusual kind of theft.

Furthermore, Mr. Innab said the company has adopted new measures and techniques to replace stolen cables. When installing new cables other steps are taken to minimise the possibility of theft.

Mr. Innab did not elaborate on the amount of money the TCC loses from cable theft, but said the loss could be estimated in the thousands of dinars.

He said cable robbers work randomly and do not target a specific area. He added that they are amateurs.

Mr. Innab said there was really little the company could do other than replace the stolen cables.

"These unfortunate incidents are affecting the performance of the company workers and they become frustrated because they have to leave their regular jobs and go to a different area to replace the missing cables," he said.

Ministry to stock markets with new French Halibna

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Supply Saturday will stock the local markets with Halibna, the dried powdered milk made in France, following a long absence of the ministry-imported commodity from Jordan.

The announcement made Thursday said that laboratory tests on 100,000 cartons of the new Halibna were completed and the ministry has already supplied the powdered milk to the Civil and Military Consumer Corporations.

A total of 35,000 cartons of the Halibna brand imported from another source remain in the government warehouses and the ministry is arranging to re-export them

because they were rejected by consumer and dairy plants and ice cream and confection factories, the ministry said.

The ministry said in a statement that the 35,000 cartons, which are due to expire in February, were proved to be fit for consumption by the Health Ministry, the Royal Scientific Society, the University of Jordan and the Amman Municipality. But it said that the public did not purchase the milk.

Earlier press reports said that people stopped buying the milk because of a strange taste, which they found different from the powdered milk they were used to.

In its statement, the ministry said that the dairy plants

and other milk product factories turned down a ministry offer to sell them the powdered milk at cost price because they said that the ministry had made it a condition that their products should clearly state that they were made of powdered milk. Manufacturers said this labeling process would be too costly.

These factories also did not want to reduce their purchases of fresh milk from local farms.

The Halibna brand of powdered milk which the ministry was used to buying from Europe and New Zealand was sold at the subsidised price of J.D. 1.1 against the regular price of J.D. 1.6.

Government, candidates and supporters violated political rights — sociologist

By Sae'da Kilani
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The 1993 elections revealed that there were violations of the law and of political rights not only by the government but also by candidates and their supporters, according to a professor of sociology at the University of Jordan.

Referring to violations on different levels and through various means, Professor Musa Ishteiwi, in a lecture at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, Wednesday, said the "excesses" perpetrated before and during elections were "in sharp contradiction and inconsistent with one of the basic foundations of political rights: democracy."

Commenting on accusations that the government has diverted votes in favour of some candidates, he said that "there is a general impression that the government had interfered in the counting process in certain dis-

tricts. Dr. Ishteiwi proposed that the judicial authority should be the final arbiter in the case of candidates contesting the outcome of the elections and not the Parliament itself as the Constitution stipulates.

According to the sociology professor, candidates are also to be blamed. He criticised candidates for "buying votes," "public voting," providing transportation and collecting people's cards as well as the transfer of votes from one constituency to another.

He said that these pressures of exploiting some voters' wretched conditions are in complete construction with the individual's right to vote and freely choose his/her candidate.

Dr. Ishteiwi proposed a limit on the amount of expenditures that candidates spend on their campaigns.

red in the elections process in favour of certain candidates because, it was believed, that the government wanted a new house of a particular nature."

Dr. Ishteiwi maintained that the one-person, one-vote formula was not in contradiction to human rights, but the itself that the amendment did not affect the number of seats per constituency or the number of constituencies was in itself unjust.

According to Dr. Ishteiwi one shortcoming was the failure of the government to facilitate the process which in some cases "resulted in preventing some from obtaining their cards due to the confusion that occurred with people having similar names, while others found their names registered in places other than their own constituency."

He criticised measures that presented some candidate representatives from attending the counting process in certain dis-

Turkish general ends visit

AMMAN (Petra) — Chief of the Turkish General Staff General Dugan Gurev Friday left Amman at the end of a several day visit to Jordan during which he met with His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Abdul Hafez Miral Al Kaabneh and other senior officials. Gen. Gurev was accompanied by a Turkish military delegation.

16.5m in Canadian aid targets economic recovery

AMMAN (J.T.) — Memorandum of understanding for two Canadian assistance programmes for Jordan, valued at Canadian dollars 16.5 million, were signed at Ministry of Planning by Andrew Robinson, the ambassador of Canada for the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and Ziad Fariz, Minister of Planning.

The two programmes compose a significant part of Canada's development assistance to Jordan for the next five years. The first one is targeted to help decrease Jordan's balance of payment deficit through financial assistance to its economic recovery programme.

This programme consists of the provision of Canadian semi-finished and manufactured goods to Jordanian importers, primarily the private sectors.

The second programme is aimed at supporting Jordan's structural adjustment programme in the water sector.

It consists of the provision of 50 person months of expertise to review existing policy and organisational structure and make recommendations for the restructuring of the Ministry of Water and Irrigation and its two entities, the Water Authority of Jordan and the Jordan Valley Authority.



INDO-JORDAN CHEMICALS CO. LTD. NOTICE FOR PREQUALIFICATION OF BIDDERS FOR PHOSPHORIC ACID TRANSPORTATION

Indo-Jordan Chemicals Company Ltd. (IJC), a joint venture company between M/s. Jordan Phosphate Mines Company Ltd. (JPMC), Jordan and M/s. Southern Petrochemical Industries Corporation Ltd. (SPIC) India, is setting up a Phosphoric Acid Complex at Eshidiya in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The acid produced in the complex is to be transported from Eshidiya by means of road tankers to IJC's storage terminal at Aqaba from where it is to be exported. The approximate road distance between Eshidiya and Aqaba is 200 KM.

The scope of work is as follows:

Transportation of 780 M3 (equivalent to 1300 MT) of phosphoric acid solution/day from Eshidiya Storage Facility to Aqaba storage facility by means of suitable road tankers. The transportation shall be on a continuous basis with a minimum of 330 days per year for a contract period of 5 years with necessary extensions thereof.

The company intends to invite bids from internationally reputed transporters after the necessary prequalification for the above scope of work.

As part of the prequalification process, the company invites prequalification bids from suitable bidders who are capable of doing this type of a work. In this connection, a prequalification document outlining the site location, brief technical details, detailed scope of the work to be done, the commercial conditions to be adhered to and the documentation to be submitted by the bidders has been prepared.

Bidders may note that their prequalification bids shall be submitted to IJC with all particulars as requested in the prequalification document on or before 2:00 p.m. on 30th Jan., 1994.

It is to be clearly understood that the final decision with regard to prequalification rests with the company.

Interested bidders may obtain the prequalification document on payment by cash/demand draft for JD200 or \$300 from the chief administration & personnel manager, IJC, 3rd floor - Delmon Building, P.O. Box 926787, Amman on any working day till Dec. 30, 1993.

Babu K. Verghese,
Managing Director.

Iranian industrial fair is postponed

AMMAN (J.T.) — An Iranian industrial fair, originally scheduled to open in Amman Thursday, was postponed until Saturday due to delays in the arrival of items to go on display.

The announcement was made by the Iranian embassy on Jordan Television Thursday.

Talks on bilateral trade and economic links ended Thursday with Iranian and Jordanian officials signing minutes of their three days of deliberations.

The two sides agreed on revising their trade agreements and the balance of payments for trade and on organising trade exchanges between them. They also agreed on drawing up an accord to normalise transport, transit and trade links and organise trade fairs in Amman and Tehran. In the minutes the two par-

ties announced their determination to encourage joint ventures, open trade centres in each other's capitals, arrange for exchange visits by business persons and pave the ground for long-term trade agreements.

Ministry of Industry and Trade Secretary General Marwan Awad and Iranian Deputy Minister of Heavy Industries Mahdi Mufidi signed the minutes at the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Mr. Mufidi earlier met Minister of Industry and Trade Basam Al Saket and discussed areas for cooperation in economic and trade affairs.

Dr. Saket said Jordan and Iran will sign a trade agreement as proposed by the Iranian side after it has been finalised by the two governments.

He said the two countries can cooperate successfully particularly in agro-industrial projects and in the manufacturing of tractors, a field Iran has had 25 years of experience in.

Jordan wins first place in music competition

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan won first place in an international music competition held in Cairo last week, according to National Music Conservatory Director Kifah Fakhoury, who returned home Friday after taking part in the competition. Jordanian musician Sakhr Hattar, who is also a member of the Fuhels Folklore Troupe, ranked first among 15 other Arab contestants who took part in the Cairo competition. Egypt ranked second.

WHAT'S GOING ON EXHIBITIONS

- Exhibition of children's drawings, paintings, and photographs at YWCA premises (11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)
- Art exhibition by plastic artist Hanan Al Dasouqi at the student multi-purpose building at the University of Jordan.
- The Palestinian embroidery exhibit at the Royal Cultural Centre (daily 10:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m.)
- Art exhibition by artist Intisar Qaddurah at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.
- Art exhibition (drawing on mirrors and glass, and ceramics) by women engineers at the Jordan Engineers Association.
- Art exhibition by plastic artist Anwar Haddadin at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Art exhibition entitled "Mirage" by artist Alia Al Shanti at Alhad Art Gallery — Mecca Street.
- Exhibition of lithographs by a number of artists at the French Cultural Centre.
- Exhibition of coins at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- Art exhibition by Iraqi artist Fahmi Al Qaysi at the Alia Art Gallery.
- Art exhibition by artist Ibrahim Al Nashashibi at Baladna Art Gallery (Gardens Street).
- Art exhibition by Iraqi artist Rakan Dabboub at Orfali Art Gallery (Tel. 826932).
- Art exhibition by a number of artists at the Student Affairs Dean's Office Building at the University of Jordan.
- Exhibition of recent paintings by artist Ammar Khammash at Ibrah Al Funnun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jahal Lawehedeh. Also showing, the permanent exhibition (Saturday-Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)

DRAMAS

- Drama in Arabic entitled "He Who Strives is Rewarded" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 5:00 p.m.
- Drama in Arabic entitled "The Uproarious House" at Samir Al Rifai Auditorium at the University of Jordan at 3:00 p.m.

AUTO SHOW

- Auto show 1994 at the Amman International Auto Exhibition.

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Democracy is the answer

THE United Nations Security Council's decision Thursday to keep sanctions against Iraq in place was no surprise in view of the way the cards were stacked against Baghdad on the eve of the council's session to reconsider the lifting of the sanctions. Britain had triggered the avalanche of accusations against the Iraqi regime some days before when it released aerial pictures purporting to show Iraq deploying chemical weapons against Shiites in southern Iraq last September. While these charges have yet to be confirmed, they nevertheless led the U.N. to dispatch an investigation team to both Iran and Iraq in a bid to collect evidence about the alleged use of chemical weapons.

Having used such weapons against the Kurds in 1988, the Iraqi regime continues to be the subject of suspicion that it would not hesitate to resort to weapons of mass destruction to defeat its enemies. While the charge on the deployment of chemical weapons has yet to be confirmed by U.N. investigators, the incident on the Kuwaiti-Iraqi border Tuesday, involving the forced expulsion of Kuwaiti bulldozers from the new U.N.-imposed frontier between the two countries by hundreds of Iraqi farmers, has obviously been exploited by the West and several Arab Gulf states to keep the heat on Baghdad unabated.

There is but one conclusion that can be drawn from the perpetual application of U.N.-imposed sanctions against Iraq in spite of that country's cooperation with the international organisation to effectively end its nuclear and chemical weapons programme. The level of Iraqi concessions on these counts was so broad and thorough that it led the U.N. to conclude that Baghdad no longer has any nuclear or chemical weapons programme worth investigating.

It is fair to say that even if Iraq succeeded in refuting the accusation that Iraqi forces used chemical weapons against their own people a few months ago, the anti-Iraq coalition would still orchestrate other reasons to maintain international pressure on that country. Even after all present accusations are addressed and resolved, there will come a time when the West will use the human rights card against Iraq to keep the pressure on. Unfortunately, the Iraqi government has done very little, if any, to improve its human rights record. Executions, denial of basic human rights and especially the absence of pluralistic democracy are still the mainstay of the current Iraqi regime. Even more relevant, as far as the international community is concerned, than border crossings over disputed territories or the seemingly fabricated accusations that chemical weapons were used against Shiites is the level of democracy in Iraq. We hope that if and when Iraq makes a persuasive move in that direction, it will not continue to be haunted by accusations that may not be true after all.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily commented on a statement by the World Health Organisation (WHO) director general who stated Wednesday that certain international powers continue to prevent food and medicine supplies from reaching the sick and the children of Iraq by accusing the United States and its allies of being behind the measure. The paper said that the world powers, including Russia, have the responsibility of caring for the world and not committing genocides against peoples. Along with these allies, said the daily, are certain Arab and Islamic countries which should also be held responsible for the plight of the Iraqi people who have become of shortage of medicine and food. Never in the history of the world has a nation or group of nations reached this level of baseness and barbarism that is continuously causing the death of innocent civilians, said the paper. The British, the French and the Americans seem unsatisfied with their bombing civilian targets in Iraq and destroying economic installations, they are now after the people of Iraq seeking their extermination, added the daily. The WHO director's announcement that certain powers prevent the dispatch of food and medicine to the Iraqis raises a big question mark about the so-called Western civilisation and the Western calls for respect of human rights which proved to be false slogans, the paper continued. These Western allies, the paper said, are determined to punish the Iraqi people while allowing the Zionist enemy to escape any retribution for the atrocities still being committed in the occupied Arab lands. It said that the United States and its allies are pursuing their crimes against the Iraqi people who, the paper said, are confronting a day of defiance, barbarism and hatred and setting an example of steadfastness and courage for other peoples of the world.

Jordanian Perspective

Upper, Lower Houses complement each other, complete post-election agenda

THE APPOINTMENT of the Upper House of Parliament on Thursday completed the last constitutional formality before Jordan's 12th Parliament could be convened with the issuance of a Royal Decree.

The composition of the Upper House indicates very clearly that a lot of thought and deliberations have gone into appointing it, not only because the Senate has to assume a higher profile role in Jordan's democratisation, but also because it had to be complementary to the Lower House elected on Nov. 8.

It could be easily seen that the Senate composition is carefully designed to make up for what could be described as some of the shortcomings in the overall shape of the Lower House in terms of legal, economic and political expertise. The inclusion of high profile political figures, legal experts and practical economists in the Senate complements the new legislative authority. By and large, it fills in the gaps in expertise, whether regarding Jordan's political agenda in the post-election period or the Kingdom's economic priorities.

The Nov. 8 elections exposed and corrected some of the inflated figures of representation in Parliament resulting from the 1989 elections. And the appointment of the Senate now put the finishing touches for Jordanians to have a Parliament highly representative of all political colours and strata of their society, including economic forces and ideological trends.

A dissection of the new Senate will show that: — The presence of all former Jordanian prime ministers who have dealt closely with the political evolution of the Kingdom over the years. There cannot be any doubt over their understanding of the issues that face all of us and we can rest assured that the political course of our country will be guided by experienced hands.

— There are quite a few economic experts in the Upper House, some of them closely involved in the ongoing peace process. As such, it is also an element of close comfort that if, for some reason or another, things do escape the Lower House, there are safety valves in the Senate to address them.

The awareness of the economic priorities and issues facing Jordan at the legislative level is the most essential component of the Kingdom's approach in the short, medium and long terms. As such, it was inevitable that there had to be individuals not only aware of the situation but also capable of accomplishing things in the Upper House.

— There was indeed a dearth of legal expertise in the Lower House, after some of our legal veterans lost their bid for reelection on Nov. 8. The inclusion of several professional lawyers as well as constitutional experts in the Senate addresses this shortcoming.

Needless to say, some of those experts cannot be classified as docile, willing to go along with all proposals from the government. On the contrary, they have proved to have their own minds and opinion about what is going on in Jordan, the region and the international scene. As such, the government, despite its good intentions, cannot hope to get away with whatever it proposes without having the legal safeguard incorporated into it while in the Upper House.

— At least nine senators over the age of 70 have been eased out of the Senate. With the infusion of new faces into the Senate, the average of the senators is brought down to 56 from the 64 of the 11th Parliament.

— A second woman has been appointed to the Senate, raising to three the number of women in the legislative authority. The overall picture that emerges from the composi-

tion of Parliament appears to underline a continuity of the process that was launched with the appointment of Abdul Salam Al Majali as prime minister in May this year. In all probability, the next few days will prove out that the Majali government was not transitory. Despite some nuances here and there, which are all part of a fast-moving democratisation process, the Majali government has fulfilled one of its most difficult mandates — holding fair and free general elections.

As the Jordanian people would have it, the elections also produced a Parliament which is highly compatible with the political course the Kingdom's leadership has adopted, and this facilitates a relatively easy process for the executive authority to press ahead with another formidable task — reaching a peace accord with Israel while ensuring that the interests of all concerned are adequately addressed.

It may not be easy, but then it goes without saying that extracting an agreement from Israel would never be easy, given the realities on the ground in the Middle East and the Arab-Israeli conflict today. That is where the Majali government, or any other executive authority at that, will face the biggest challenge.

But the dominant political programmes of the deputies in the Lower House are very much in line with the policies adopted by the leadership and, as such, the government should not find it difficult to get the needed parliamentary endorsement to support its course in negotiations with Israel.

The second priority of the government is indeed to devise means to address Jordan's economic problems. For one thing, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) have already given not only a clean bill of health to the Majali government, but also a certificate of excellence as was evident in the issuance of a stand-by certificate of adherence to the economic restructuring programme and release of credit to develop the energy sector in October.

Obviously, amending the legal system and updating the judiciary with legislation to replace some of the archaic laws that date back to several decades is another task that awaits government action, to be followed by gradual administrative reforms to ensure optimum use of the resources available to Jordan.

In all these areas, it can be easily said, there are experienced figures in Parliament today. And that in itself is the best bet for the government to guide and be guided as it gets into the business of grappling with the issues in an era of openness and cooperation with the legislative authority.

Granted, there are strong forces in Parliament which do not look kindly upon any negotiated settlement with Israel. Again, that is part of democracy that we are living in. But if one wants to split hairs and go deep into the affair, it can be seen that the government could get between 53 to 57 votes in its favour on an issue-by-issue basis.

On the other hand, it is also heartening for us Jordanians to see that the 27 to 23 votes of dissent that could be heard in Parliament are not votes for voice-sake. Those who harbour hardline approaches to the Arab-Israeli conflict and Jordan's economic problems do have well-defined and clear arguments to support their positions, which should indeed be heard by not only Jordanians but also the world at large.

Fortunately, and unfortunately, as Jordanians might view it from their own vantage points, those voices are all part of the democracy that has come to be established as our way of life.

Only NATO membership will soothe their fears

By Max Jakobson

HELSINKI — NATO has yet to find a way to reassure the Central and East European nations without alienating Russia. The "security partnership" expected to be offered by NATO to all European states, including Russia, Ukraine and possibly other former Soviet republics, is intended to go at least halfway towards satisfying the craving for security in what President Lech Walesa of Poland has called "the power vacuum at the heart of Europe." But in the eyes of those to whom it is offered, the cup looks half empty.

Central and East European anxieties have been sharpened by the shock waves emanating from the Balkans. This is not because of any fear that the conflict in former Yugoslavia might be reproduced elsewhere in Europe, but because it has revealed the limits of the West's will to intervene. That is why the Central and East European states now are striving to be admitted to the institutions that the West is committed to defend. They desperately want to belong.

The problem is, of course, the uncertainty about the future of Russia. The leaders of the Central and East European nations must take into account the possibility, as President Vaclav Havel of the Czech Republic has put it, "that in Russia, forces still enamored of the imperial ambitions of the former Soviet Union would temporarily gain the upper hand: chauvinistic, Great Russian, crypto-Communist and crypto-totalitarian forces."

Membership in the European Community is the first choice for the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and possibly others. But since it will take years for any of the Central or East European countries to reach a level of economic development that will enable them to join the Community, NATO membership appears to offer a short cut into the western fold. The leaders of the four countries have been encouraged to believe that this is possible.

The German defence minis-

ter, Volker Ruehe, last spring advocated an enlargement of NATO. Lech Walesa says that Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany has promised him that Poland could be admitted. The way seemed to be clear after President Boris Yeltsin's visit to Warsaw in August. A joint declaration signed at the end of the visit said that "in the long term, such as decision to join NATO" taken by a sovereign Poland in the interests of overall European integration does not go against the interests of other states, including the interests of Russia.

But it soon became obvious that Mr. Yeltsin had gone too far. The Russian security-policy establishment disavowed him. At the end of September he had to retract his Warsaw statement. In a letter to the leaders of the United States, France, Britain and Germany he argued that former members of the Warsaw Pact should become members of NATO only if Russia also was included. He proposed that Russia and the West should jointly guarantee the security of the countries lying between them.

In the face of Russian opposition, NATO retreated. It is no longer considering any expansion. The argument is that Russia must not be isolated, because this would strengthen the kind of extremist forces that Mr. Havel describes above.

But there is another valid argument here: To admit some of the Central and East European countries would intensify the sense of insecurity among those nations that are left out. The Baltic states, in particular, would feel abandoned. They have not forgotten the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact of 1939.

Why was all this not figured out before hopes of NATO membership were raised? Now those nations which had expected membership feel let down, while the others remain being relegated to second-class status.

A "security partnership" seems an innocuous concept. That is precisely why it fails to

address the worries of the Central and East European countries. It looks like another Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, this time in uniform. Unfortunately, the CSCE has lost credibility as a result of its hasty decision to admit all the former Soviet republics.

Now the CSCE stands by helplessly while several of its members states are torn apart. Russia will not permit a CSCE intervention in the area it calls "near-abroad." Whatever peacekeeping needs to be done there will be carried out by Russian troops.

But where does "near-abroad" end? Does it cover only the Commonwealth of Independent States (which has just been forcibly expanded to include Georgia)? Or is its outer limit like the horizon that recedes even further as we approach it?

The fear in Central and Eastern Europe is that, having brought the CIS under its control, Russia will go on to reassert political influence over its western neighbours, on the grounds that "legitimate security interests" entitle it to ensure that these countries are run by "friendly" governments.

This Russian version of the Monroe Doctrine was never seriously challenged by the West in the past. Would it be challenged in the future, if claimed by a Russian government that poses no direct threat to the West? Will the Western policy of supporting Mr. Yeltsin as the best available leader to guide Russia towards democracy and a market economy pave the way back to Yalta?

Such questions may reflect an unduly pessimistic view of the future of Russia under Boris Yeltsin, but it is a view widely held in Central and Eastern Europe. It explains why Lech Walesa for one continues to insist, as he did during his recent visit to Helsinki, that nothing short of NATO membership will reassure Poland — International Herald Tribune.

U.S. lauds Jordan on elections

Following is an editorial, broadcast by the Voice of America November 17, reflecting the views of the U.S. government. It is reproduced from the United States Information Agency.

Jordanian voters went to the polls this month (Nov. 8) to elect members to the country's Lower House of Parliament.

The elections were the first since 1956 in which candidates were allowed to campaign as representatives of political parties. No single party or group won a majority of the 80 seats, but the election results reflect widespread support for centrists and moderates. One of those elected, Toujan Faisal, is Jordan's first female member of Parliament. Ms. Faisal, a former television journalist, ran (as an independent) in Jordan's last parliamentary elections in 1989 but was defeated after being strongly opposed by Islamic conservatives.

In addition to showing a trend towards moderation among Jordan's voters, the elections indicate support for the country's continued participation in peace talks with Israel. Candidates from the far left and far right who oppose the peace process got less support than in 1989. As Jordan's King Hussein said: "We are now engaged in this peace process and we are committed to it." The Jordanian leader stressed that he does not "find in our Islam anything that stands in the way of peace or progress."

According to its 1952 Constitution, Jordan is a hereditary monarchy in which the King holds ultimate power. But in recent years, King Hussein has allowed the elected Parliament to exercise more authority over governmental affairs. The policy of political liberalisation has resulted in greater participation in elections.

The United States congratulates the Jordanians on their successful elections. The United States supports movement towards democracy in Jordan and considers these elections an important step in that direction.

The Week in Print

Parliament should address national, regional issues

Reviewed by Elia Nasrallah

THE LOCAL dailies gave prominence in the past week to the outcome of the parliamentary elections, suggesting ideas for the coming stage and proposing plans for the government and Parliament. The Middle East peace process and the future Palestinian-Jordanian relationships were also given due coverage in the press.

Under the title of: Towards a political government, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily urged the government, which is composed of technocrats, to resign and pave the ground for the creation of what he called a political government to deal with the political issues looming ahead.

Fahd Al Fanek said that issues like unemployment and deficits in the budget or the road networks and health and educational services come second to the main political and basic questions facing the country on the internal and external fronts.

He said that the serious developments taking place in the Middle East, with direct bearing on the Kingdom, should assume priority on the agenda of the new government.

Salah Al Qallah, a columnist in Al Dustour, commented on the outcome of the parliamentary elections, and held the same views like Dr. Fanek by noting that the whole Middle East area is facing unusual developments affecting its political, geographical and economic future.

The writer said that it was natural for the Parliament members to start thinking about choosing a new speaker, but it is more reasonable for the newly elected deputies to direct their attention to the serious developments in the region and, accordingly, elect a very capable colleague to steer the ship and react proportionately to the serious events expected early next year.

Muhammad Subeiti, a columnist in Al Dustour, said that the voters who brought the new deputies to Parliament should not be content with mere participation in the elections that occur once every four years.

The writer said that the new deputies should not follow the example of previous members of Parliament who seldom met with those who elected them to discuss their grievances and demands from the government.

He said that the voters should constitute what he called a pressure group on the deputies to force them to work and serve their community by dealing with the immediate problems.

Abdullah Al Khathir referred to the fact that some of the candidates running for elections barely won a handful of votes, which means that they were never supported by their constituencies but ran for the sole purpose of attaining self-interests.

The columnist, who writes for Al Dustour daily, suggested that the government require sufficient proof from the candidates in the coming elections that they enjoy the support of their districts and that the government impose a heavy fee on candidates who, if they are successful, should be eligible for reimbursement, unlike those who fail and lose the fees. He also said that the government should cancel the voting cards system, which has been subject to much suspicion and controversy, and allow people to vote by showing identity cards, thus facilitating voting for more members of the public.

Fir Taher Al Udwan, a columnist in Al Dustour, the one-person, one-vote system was detrimental to the Islamic Action Front and its candidates.

The writer said that the system was responsible for the fruit's losses and was in favour of those running on tribal tickets. But on the other hand, said the writer, the elections resulted in many divisions among the tribes and clans, and even within the same clan, because their members held different views about nominating certain candidates.

Muhammad Daoud, a columnist in Al Dustour, ex-

pected very warm relationship between the government and the new Parliament. The writer said that closer cooperation between the two sides was bound to create a very favourable atmosphere for a successful Jordanian policy on the external and domestic fronts.

Al Dustour daily tackled the ongoing escalation by Israel of the tension in the Middle East, noting that in addition to the repression that is being stepped up against the Palestinians, the Jewish state is still raiding southern Lebanon, making agreements in settlements with Syria and Lebanon that are out of reach at the present.

The paper said that statements by Israeli leaders do not augur well for the peace process because they imply tacit threats to Syria, which Israel accuses of being responsible for the groups and militias pursuing attacks on Israel.

Muhammad Kawash cautioned the Arab countries to beware of Israel's manoeuvres and refrain from normalising relations with the Jewish state. What the Israelis want and seek to achieve, said the writer in Al Dustour, is opening the Arab countries' markets before Israeli goods before reaching a political settlement with the Arab states.

Samir Oitami, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab, claimed that the Arabs, who lost the wars with Israel, are now losing the battle of peace negotiations with the Jewish state.

The writer said that backed by the United States, Israel is having the upper hand in the peace negotiations at a time when Israel and the United States are pursuing efforts to ensure continued siege and embargo on Libya, Iraq and Sudan to weaken the Arab stand.

The writer said that both America and the Arab leaders claim that the path of peace is there to continue and to move ahead, but the Arabs feel that they are losing the battle with Israel, as they did in the wars.

Mahmoud Rimawi, a columnist in Al Ra'i, said that Palestinian leadership's condemnation of violence and denunciations of the killing of an Israeli settler raises a big question mark. The writer said that this development clearly indicates that Yasser Arafat and Yitzhak Rabin, who reached the Sept. 13 deal, are directed by the will of the Jewish settlers and their desires and whims.

It should be stressed that the settlements have always been considered as illegal and a stumbling block in the path of peace, said the writer.

Therefore, the question of settlements should be placed high on the agenda of priorities before the Israeli and Palestinian negotiators who should reach a stage where the settlements can be removed to pave the ground for peace.

A columnist in Sawt Al Shaab daily said that it is rather difficult to imagine Jordan and the autonomy rule in Palestine coordinating their economic relationship because, under the Israel-PLO Declaration of Principles, Israel is clearly aiming at dominating the Palestinian economy and controlling the customs.

Salameh Elkour said that unless the Palestinians have their own free national economy there can be no chance for Palestinian-Jordanian cooperation.

Fahd Al Fanek said that the Jordanian-Palestinian coordination committees are not living up to expectations.

He said that there are numerous issues pertaining to monetary and banking affairs which are far from being settled at a time when plans are being laid for opening Palestinian banks in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The writer said that it would be better for Jordan to unilaterally declare the resolution of these committees until the PLO leadership shows real commitment to the requirements of the aspired coordination.

Handwritten signature: محمد عبد الله

Mitterrand opens new-look Louvre as museum turns 200

By Claire Rosenberg
Reuter

PARIS — Camels strutted through its courtyards, men fought against lions and a murdered French king gasped his last breath there.

Once a mediaeval fortress converted into a palace for the kings of France, the Louvre celebrates its 200th birthday as a museum this week with President Francois Mitterrand ushering it into the 21st century as the extended "grand Louvre".

On November 18, the day of its bicentenary, the president inaugurated a museum which has doubled in size in a decade and become the centre of a billion-dollar cultural complex in the heart of Paris.

Though the final touches to a 16-year building and expansion programme are scheduled to take place in 1996, Mr. Mitterrand officially opens an entire new wing as well as a vast underground extension.

In doing so, he joins a regal 800-year tradition in which successive kings, emperors and governments built, demolished, renovated and transformed one of France's most distinctive landmarks.

"The history of the Louvre reads like a novel," said the weekly *Nouvel Observateur*.

"Each sovereign and head of state has tried to leave his mark."

Barely six months after taking office in 1981, Mr. Mitterrand began what was to become his most ambitious cultural project.

"I have decided, without wishing to disoblige anyone, to return the Louvre to its destiny," he said in September 1981.

He meant he was throwing out the Ministry of Finance from the 195-metre — long Richelieu wing it had occupied since 1871.

Mr. Mitterrand's desire to extend the cluttered museum generated one of the French capital's biggest and costliest projects in decades.

No one will question its success. Since 1981, the Louvre's intake of visitors has doubled to five million a year.

But there was controversy over a giant glass pyramid designed by Chinese-American architect Ioh Ming Pei, now the main entrance to underground galleries completed in 1989.

France's current conservative Prime Minister Edouard Balladur, with whom Mr. Mitterrand shares power, threw a spanner in the works in 1986, when as finance minister he

refused to move his department.

Work on the Richelieu wing had to wait two years until Mr. Mitterrand's socialist returned to government in 1988. The new wing will exhibit some of the 5,000 works of arts previously stored in the museum's vaults because of lack of space.

Last month, the museum showed its resolve to join the modern age by opening an underground car park and cosmopolitan shopping complex beneath an inverted pyramid, a little sister to Mr. Pei's original masterpiece.

Closing their ears to French grumblings about an Anglo-Saxon cultural invasion, the museum allowed French and foreign traders to set up shop in the once-austere temple of art.

But an air of history still pervades the new, cream-painted subterranean halls.

At either end of the underground section construction workers unearthed parts of the First Louvre, a 14th century fortress built on the orders of crusader King Philippe-Auguste as he left to fight the infidel with his English brother-in-law, King Richard I, better known as Richard the Lionheart.

The Louvre's tower and

walls were demolished in the 16th century to make way for a royal palace on the orders of Francois I, the first French sovereign to hang paintings on its walls.

Among the first works he acquired were those of Italian masters Leonardo da Vinci, Titian and Raphael.

Da Vinci's "Mona Lisa", a star attraction at the Louvre, graced its August halls even before the palace turned museum.

A hundred years later, Henri IV died in its courtyard after being fatally stabbed by a persecuted Protestant. It was there too that 17th century dramatist Moliere and his troupe played for Louis XIV's court.

The Louvre's days as a royal seat were ended by the French Revolution of 1789.

"The Louvre must be restored and turned into a famous museum," revolutionary leaders decreed. And after combing the grand homes and palaces of royalty and the aristocracy for art treasures, the museum opened on Nov. 18, 1793.

A few years later Emperor Napoleon, returning from his victorious overseas campaigns, vastly increased the collections.

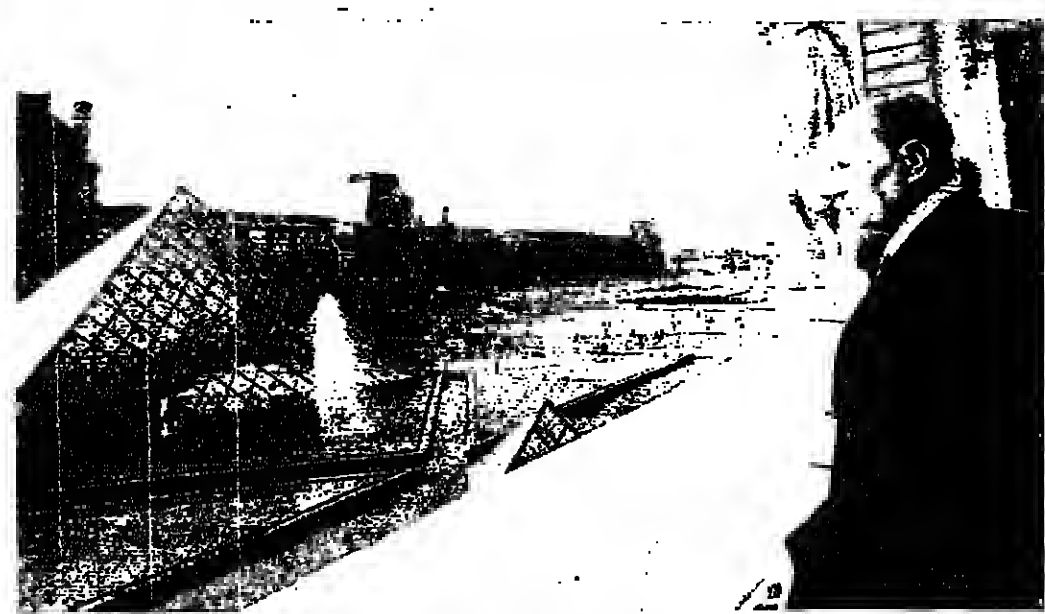
Behind a procession of

caged lions and camels, he brought 29 carriages bearing antiques and works of art from his Italian campaign alone.

Some were returned to their owners after his defeat at Waterloo in 1815. But not before Napoleon, having repudiated his first wife Josephine Beauharnais, married Marie-Louise of Habsburg, at a glittering ceremony inside the Louvre.

In this century, the museum survived two major traumas. The first was the theft of the Mona Lisa, cut from its frame in August 1911 and returned in packet, dumped under a sleazy hotel bed, in Italy late that year after a ransom was paid.

The second was the outbreak of World War II. Sensing war was inevitable, museum curators smuggled its treasures out to a provincial chateau well before the Germans occupied France.



French President Francois Mitterrand gazes towards the glass pyramid before inaugurating the newly furnished Richelieu wing of the Louvre Museum (AFP photo)

مدرسة البكالوريا - عمان

ترغب مدرسة البكالوريا - عمان اعلامكم بأنه يتواجد لديها عدد قليل من تذاكر البانصيب لسيرة فيروزا داهياتسو. علماً بأنه سيتم السحب يوم الأربعاء الموافق ١٩٩٣/١١/٢٤ في حفل عشاء المجمع الرياضي بفندق الأردن - انتركونتيننتال. وسيتم نشر النتائج بالجرائد المحلية. بإمكانكم شراء التذاكر مباشرة من موظف الاستقبال بالمدرسة. للاستفسار، بإمكانكم الاتصال بهاتف ٨٤٥٥٧٢، ٨٤٧١١-٢-٣.

الإدارة

AMMAN BACCALAUREATE SCHOOL

The Amman Baccalaureate School would like to inform you that it has a small number of lottery tickets still available for the Daihatsu Feroza Car lottery. The lottery will be held on Wednesday Nov. 24, 1993, during the Sports Complex Dinner Party at the Jordan Inter-Continental Hotel. Results will be advertised in the local newspapers. Tickets can be bought directly from the school's receptionist. For any queries, school phone numbers: 845572, 847191-2-3.

Administration

تذكير

تود مدرسة البكالوريا - عمان اعلامكم بأن حفل عشاء المجمع الرياضي المزمع اقامته في فندق الاردن - انتركونتيننتال سيتم في الموعد المقرر، يوم الأربعاء الموافق ١٩٩٣/١١/٢٤ الساعة الثامنة والنصف مساءً.

نتمنى حضوركم

الإدارة

REMINDER

The Amman Baccalaureate School would like to announce that the Sports Complex Dinner will be held as scheduled, on Wednesday Nov. 24, 1993, at 8:30 p.m. at the Jordan International Hotel.

Administration

Yeltsin land reforms haunted by history

By Paola Messina
Agence France Presse

MOSCOW — Radical land reforms introduced by President Boris Yeltsin have raised the unwelcome spectre of one of the darkest episodes of post-revolutionary Russian history — the rise and bloody fall of the rural bourgeois or Kulak.

Mr. Yeltsin's decision to allow the free sale of land and the dismantling of collective farms contains echoes of the economic liberalisation masterminded by Lenin in 1921, which led to the formation of an entire class of small-scale landowners.

But the fate that befell the Kulaks — who were liquidated in their millions in the 1920s and 1930s on the orders of Stalin after he abolished private ownership of land — could yet haunt Mr. Yeltsin's attempts to again ease central control over the country's unwieldy agricultural sector.

The text of Yeltsin's decree Thursday called for the free sale of plots, lifting the perestroika-era restrictions that had prevented private farmers from selling land for a period of 10 years.

It also called for the privatisation of the Soviet-era collective and state-farm systems, which will be turned into joint-stock companies.

But according to some opinion polls, some 70 per cent of salaried Russian farmworkers are not tempted to become entrepreneurs.

Many are aware that land sales remain a high-risk option in a country still beset by economic turmoil and Byzantine bureaucracy.

But historians maintain other factors also come into play.

In 1928 Stalin announced "the liquidation of the Kulaks as a class," unleashing a reign of terror that resulted in the death or deportation of some

eight million Russians.

With Kulak children depicted as enemies of the people and denied access to higher education, the purge destroyed any hopes of a rural bourgeoisie becoming established, brutally confirming Russian agriculture's collectivist traditions.

These stretched back centuries, upheld by a feudal system that remained in place until 1861, when it was abolished by Tsar Alexander II.

Two years later 60 per cent of the 23 million freed peasants refused to leave their former masters' lands, preferring the security of serfdom to the smallholders' uncertain future.

Stalin's repression of the Kulaks plunged Russian agriculture into crisis.

His forced collectivisation of 200 million hectares (500 million acres) — equivalent to 95 per cent of Russia's arable land — created a massive network of corruption and misappropriation led by local leaders with the compliance of the politburo.

As a result, Russia has become a major importer of grain in a reversal of its former status as the world's bread basket.

Attempts by Nikita Khrushchev in 1964 to stem the flow by decentralising the system led to his ouster as Soviet leader.

And warnings that Mr. Yeltsin's reforms will face concerted opposition came Thursday when Yuri Chernichenko, head of the Russian peasants' party, said farm managers profiting from the Soviet-era system "tried to do everything in their power to make sure that the decree would be full of empty words."

But Mr. Chernichenko predicted: "Boris Yeltsin will be known throughout history as the man who liquidated the Soviets and gave citizens free ownership of land."



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Economy

Clinton hails NAFTA as unions vent ire

WASHINGTON (R) — President Clinton, heading for a meeting with Asia-Pacific leaders, said Thursday the NAFTA trade pact with Mexico and Canada will bring a "great new era" and help efforts to scrap global trade barriers.

The House of Representatives voted to support the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) during a vote late Wednesday, but Mr. Clinton's intense lobbying for it carried a price. Angry union leaders bitterly denounced his tactics Wednesday and threatened reprisals in future elections.

Speaking at the White House before departing for the 15-nation Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum in Seattle, Clinton said

the vote gave him "a strengthened hand to fight for open markets throughout the world."

"By taking the courageous step of opening trade in our own hemisphere, we have the economic, the political and moral standing to make the case that that ought to be done throughout the world," he said.

"We took a long step in the right direction last night," Mr. Clinton said. "I intend to take more steps on that course in the next few days."

The United States, Canada and 13 Asian nations were exploring the potential of an infant Pacific trading network at their meeting in Seattle, where Mr. Clinton hopes to develop America's ties with

Asian states.

Following the fight over NAFTA in the House, the Senate was expected to easily approve the pact, which phases out tariffs over a 15-year period, by Saturday.

Mr. Clinton has argued that passage of NAFTA also improves U.S. credibility in negotiations to liberalize trade laws under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Those talks face a Dec. 15 deadline.

Speaking to reporters before he left for Seattle, Mr. Clinton said he would dispatch Vice President Al Gore and White House Chief of Staff Thomas McClary to Mexico next week to discuss the pact, which would go into effect on Jan. 1.

Mr. Clinton said he spoke

with Mexican President Carlos Salinas and told him the two officials would "meet with him and his government for in-depth discussions about how best to launch this great new era in North American relations."

Officials said it was likely the meeting would take place next Wednesday.

The NAFTA fight has pitted Mr. Clinton, the first Democrat in the White House in 12 years, against most labor unions, a traditional base of support for his party.

While Mr. Clinton praised opponents of the pact for fighting for what they believed in, Lane Kirkland, president of the AFL-CIO federation of 88 unions, made clear that wounds opened in the fight

would not heal quickly.

The pact "has little to do with the national interest," he told reporters. "The primary goal is to protect the property, patents and profits of U.S. corporations that will locate facilities in Mexico."

NAFTA "gives corporate America an easy and secure means of escape from the minimum conditions of life and labor that the American people... have established for themselves and their children," he said.

Mr. McClary told reporters Mr. Clinton spoke to Mr. Kirkland and to congressional Democrats who opposed NAFTA Thursday. He described the conversations as positive.

"Bill Clinton has understood and identified with the working

men and women of this country," Mr. McClary said. He added that Mr. Clinton was "trying to reach out" to Mr. Kirkland and labor.

William Bywater, head of the electrical workers union, accused Mr. Clinton of bribing congressmen. "President Clinton opened up the biggest candy store in the world... and he got the vote," he said.

"He did not get it on the merits, he got it by bribing those congressmen to vote against their conscience," Mr. Bywater said. "We will not forget those congressmen... we're going to make sure we get even at the polls."

Mr. Kirkland denied that labor leaders were plotting to retaliate against members of Congress who did not side with

them. "It is not a threat," he said repeatedly.

"It is not a threat to suggest to a member of Congress who seeks our support, as they have... that that will weigh heavily on our response to their appeals," he said.

Organized labour contributes heavily to political candidates, primarily Democrats. Mr. Clinton was forced to write an unusual letter late in the fight vowing to support any member of Congress — Democrat or Republican — attacked for supporting NAFTA in their reelection campaign.

Latin American leaders welcomed Thursday the victory of the NAFTA, saying it showed Washington was serious about opening up a free trade zone across the western hemisphere.

Presidents, ministers and bankers from all over the region said the U.S. House of Representatives' vote to accept NAFTA late Wednesday could mark the start of a new era in U.S. relations with Latin America's troubled young democracies.

NAFTA will create a common market between Canada, the United States and Mexico with trade restrictions being gradually dropped over 15 years starting on Jan. 1, 1994.

"NAFTA's approval demonstrates the United States' determination to work, alongside Latin America, the Caribbean and Canada with the aim of forging a hemisphere of democracy, prosperity and justice," said Enrique Iglesias, president of the Inter-American Development Bank.

President Clinton, spurred by his triumph in forcing through NAFTA, had promised words for the rest of the region. "I'll reach out to the other market-oriented democracies of Latin America to ask them to join in this great American pact that I believe offers so much hope to our future," he said late Wednesday.

Topping the list of potential additions to the NAFTA trade bloc are Chile, Argentina and Colombia, but some analysts say it will be some time before negotiations open.

Still, almost all the region's governments have adopted economic liberalization programmes and hope, sooner or later, to get in on the hemisphere-wide trade bloc envisioned under former president George Bush's so-called initiative for the Americas and adopted by his successor in the White House.

Looking outside the range of Latin America, the Brazilian government said NAFTA's approval "augurs well" for the ongoing Uruguay Round of world trade talks, which negotiators hope to complete with full agreement by Dec. 15.

Dollar continues to advance against European currencies

Following is a report submitted by Naser Nabulsi, private client group, Merrill Lynch Dubai

Overview

Fundamental view: The dollar continues to push ahead against European currencies, with a surge of optimism about passage of the NAFTA boosting the dollar above the DM 1.70 level. With the U.S. economy expected to post growth in the 4 per cent-to-5 per cent range in the current quarter, a move toward the DM 1.75 level would not be surprising in coming weeks. We maintain our 12-month target of DM 1.75 based on our expectation of a sharp drop in European interest rates next year. The yen continues to trade in a narrow range against the dollar, and both Japan and the U.S. would appear content with a trading range of 100-to-110 yen per dollar. But upward pressure on the yen is likely to reemerge next year if Japan's current account surplus remains large.

Technical view: Although the U.S. dollar index was little changed for the week ended Nov. 12, the greenback was weak against the European currencies and the Japanese yen while recording sharp gains versus the Australian and Canadian dollars. Short term momentum oscillators remain weak, but have not yet begun to test oversold parameters, suggesting that the recent corrective process is still in progress. At the same time, first phase of the rally from October's low is complete. At the same time, medium term momentum remains constructive, implying that the current dollar weakness is best interpreted as a short term (counter trend) event in the context of a renewed uptrend. We view this budding medium term strength as a sign that the underlying uptrend from the September 1992 low is beginning to reassert itself. If so, the correction is likely to be relatively well contained, with nearby support indicated at 93.30; if a new medium term uptrend is developing, worst case support is likely to be around 92.25. Resistance for the dollar index is indicated at this past summer's 95.80 high; a rally decisively through that level would allow for a challenge of 97.50-98.00.

Japanese yen

Fundamental view: After dipping briefly to the 105 level against the yen, the dollar has recovered to near the 107 level on optimism about the passage of NAFTA on Nov. 17. Pronounced weakness in the Japanese stock market in recent weeks reflects growing pessimism about the outlook for Japan's economy. We have revised down our growth forecast several times in recent months and now look for real GDP growth of only 0.8 per cent next year. We also expect a 0.5 per cent discount rate cut in the first quarter of next year to bring the discount rate to an historic low of 1.25 per cent. Against a backdrop of relatively robust U.S. growth, expectations of further monetary easing in Japan could contribute to some further yen weakness in the near term. But policymakers on both sides of the Pacific are probably content to let the yen remain in the 100-to-110 range against the dollar for some time to come. Moreover, if Japan's domestic demand remains weak next year, import growth will remain sluggish and little progress will be made in reducing the current account surplus. Based on our view that Japan's current account surplus will fall only marginally next year to \$125 billion from \$137 billion this year, we expect upward pressure on the yen to eventually resurface, despite low interest rates in Japan. We look for the yen to move to the 100 and 95 against the dollar over the next 6 and 12 months respectively.

Technical view: The Japanese yen rose 2.5 per cent against the U.S. dollar last week and was the strongest of the six major currencies we regularly discuss. Short term momentum oscillators remain constructive, implying that higher highs are likely for this rally. If those higher highs materialise, they could begin to put some pressure on the still downwardly biased medium term oscillators. At the current time, that pressure point appears to be near 103-104 JY/U.S.\$, potentially important support at 108-109 has — as indicated — been tested and it would appear that the correction has already achieved many of the objectives that it needed to achieve before successfully resuming the long term uptrend.

Deutschmark

Fundamental view: The dollar surged to the DM 1.71 level on optimism about passage of the NAFTA. We would not be surprised to see the dollar reach our three-month target of DM 1.75 before the end of this year if robust U.S. growth continues against a backdrop of further monetary easing in Germany. Germany's five "wisemen" issued forecasts in line with our own, calling for zero growth in Germany in 1994 and supporting the case for further monetary easing. Another cut in official German interest rates is not expected until late December or early January, but the trend in German rates remains clear.

We continue to expect German 3-month money market rates to fall to 4 per cent by the end of next year from a current level of 6.1 per cent. With U.S. short-term rates expected to rise over the next year, Germany's short-term interest rate advantage over the U.S. is likely to disappear, leading to further weakness of the Deutschmark and other European currencies. We continue to look for the dollar to reach DM 1.80 and DM 1.85 over the next six and 12 months respectively.

Technical view: The Deutschmark rose 0.6 per cent week-to-week versus the U.S. dollar. Interestingly, medium term sentiment for the currency is now in oversold territory even as short term sentiment (as represented by put/call data) continues to improve. These positive sentiment indicators add substance to constructive short term momentum oscillators. These oscillators are not yet close to overbought territory, indicating that further currency strength is likely over the near term. By contrast, medium term oscillators appear to have peaked and — in the absence of a rally to 1.59-1.61 DM/U.S.\$ — are unlikely to confirm any upcoming currency strength in coming weeks. Indeed, medium term momentum has the potential to maintain its new-found weakness through into January. This latter point would suggest that nearby currency strength is likely to be relatively short lived and will be only a reaction within a new downtrend. There is good chart resistance for the currency at 1.65-1.66. An eventual decline to 1.75 and beyond remains a reasonably strong probability.

The mark/yen cross-rate remains in the benchmark 62-64 trading range. Short term oscillators have bottomed, but medium term oscillators appear to be peaking. If so, the next short term price peak could set the stage for a second leg of decline with a possible test of the August lows below 60. However, the 66.50-67.00 level remains strong resistance, and a decisive rally back through that benchmark would do much to signal further strength toward important chart resistance at 70-72.

Pound Sterling

Fundamental view: The pound is little changed against the

U.S.\$ versus last week but gained against the DM, trading recently at 1.48 U.S.\$/£ and DM/£ 2.52. A smaller-than-expected trade deficit helped to strengthen the pound against the dollar but the rise has since been reversed. The DM/£ rate moved up after gloomy reports on the German economy helped to weaken the DM vs. the dollar. Although the foreign exchange market is likely to have already discounted some decline in base rates after the budget is presented at the end of the month, a 100 basis point cut would probably lead to pound depreciation. We are forecasting a depreciation to U.S.\$/£ 1.41 in 12 months, as U.S. interest rates rise gradually beginning in mid-1994. Against the DM, however, we are forecasting appreciation after near-term weakness, to DM/£ 2.60 in 12 months, driven by our forecast of a 155 basis point decline in short-term DM interest rates. Also underlying the pound's expected rise against the DM are our above-consensus forecast of 1994 U.K. growth at 3.2 per cent and our below-consensus projection of no German growth in 1994.

Technical view: The British pound gained 0.7 per cent against the U.S. dollar last week. The relative strength properties for this currency remain stronger than those of some of the other European currencies. Medium term sentiment is now in oversold territory, while short term put/call sentiment is coming off of a recent oversold reading. Moreover, short term momentum has turned back to the upside. All of this implies that the currency continues to be nicely positioned for a rally. However, medium term momentum has a downward bias and, until this is alleviated, nearby strength is likely to be relatively limited.

Versus the DM, sterling has been able to maintain its relative strength. However, while medium term momentum for the cross-rate appears to be bottoming, short term oscillators have peaked and may delay the full impact of medium term improvement for a few weeks. A well-contained pullback would do much to support the currency's developing relative strength position. The cross-rate has recently been testing resistance at 2.50-2.53. Important support is at 2.43-2.44.

Swiss Franc

Fundamental view: The Swiss franc remained near 0.88 S.F./DM and S.F./U.S.\$ 1.50 in recent trading. We continue to forecast franc depreciation to S.F./U.S.\$ 1.57 in 12 months, as Swiss interest rates decline further in a low growth environment. By contrast, we believe that U.S.\$ rates will begin to rise by mid-1994 in an environment of healthy though not buoyant growth. Our Swiss GDP outlook is not as bleak as our forecast for Germany. As a result, we expect much larger cuts in DM short term interest rates, leading us to project franc appreciation to 0.85 S.F./DM in 12 months. Furthermore, Switzerland's inflation rate is a bit lower than Germany's, and its current account is substantial surplus versus a deficit in Germany.

Technical view: The Swiss franc rose 0.6 per cent versus the dollar last week. Much like the DM, medium term sentiment indicators have improved and are now at oversold levels while put/call data is neutral. To further the comparison, short term momentum is improving nicely even as medium term oscillators appear to have peaked. Thus, the currency is in position for continued strength, but we will be inclined to view any such strength as probably being fairly short lived and likely to prove to be a counter-trend reaction in the context of a renewed downtrend. Nearby resistance is indicated in the 1.45-1.47 S.F./U.S.\$ range.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY NOVEMBER 20, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

The Aquarius Moon squares both Pluto and the Sun making people uneasy, revealing secrets and stifling emotions. Tensions and conflicts between desires and emotions make for a difficult day.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Now your creative ideas are very good but proceed cautiously towards obtaining them and look for some new information that can be helpful towards this purpose.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Take some time out to devote to whatever may be interfering with the harmony at your own residence and you do so by keeping any promises you have made there.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Communications with long time associates are best for you to engage in today in order to get some constructive results and avoid a schism.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Do nothing requiring any large expenditures of cash or assets and make sure you do work required for any favours that you otherwise receive.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Matters at your home can be upsetting so get out in the world and enjoy it — pleasures and recreations that have proven satisfactory in the past.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Get into some intimate

activities now and avoid dashing around for whatever your purpose and you find you get some desirable private backing.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) A generous and magnanimous friend is willing to go along with a desire that is important to you so long as it does not require an outlay of money.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Don't push your own goals with those who are in positions of power now but get a long standing experienced businessperson to do so for you.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Don't let a personal annoyance keep you from going out into some new interest or with a new acquaintance and to some place of entertainment.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) A day to sidestep being with a demanding comrade who take up all your time and keeps you from getting into important practical interests.

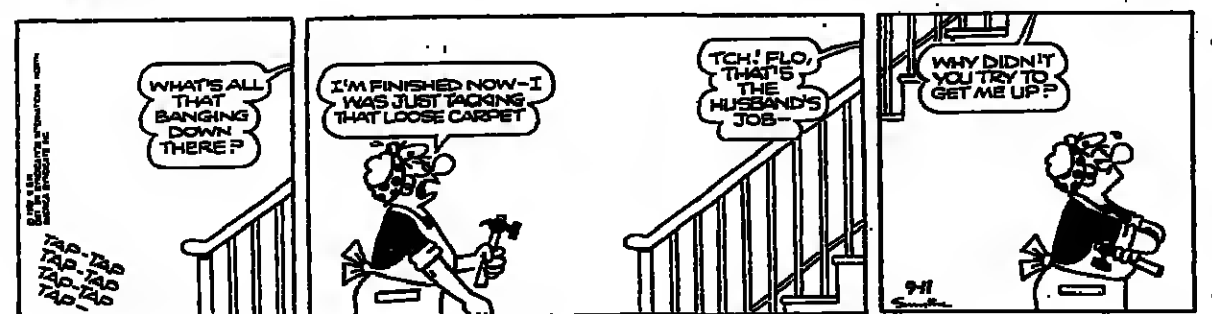
AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A conventional associate is willing to go along with you in a joint project if you don't bring in a critical highly placed expert so do it together.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Avoid going off to some new interest or person and put your time instead on continuing to build up a strong and durable public reputation.

Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



THE BETTER HALF

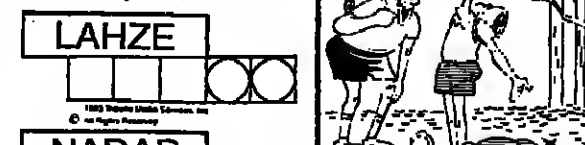
By Harris



"Give me a break, Harriet! My morning breath can't be that bad!"

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



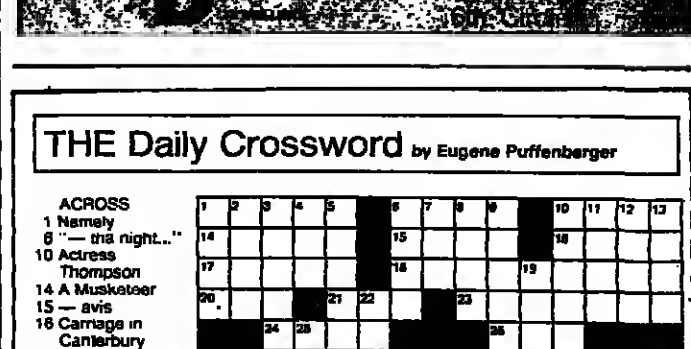
Answer here: HE GOT " (Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: BROOK SKULL GENTRY PERMIT

Answer: Why the washer couldn't keep up with the dishes — HE WAS OUT OF 'SINK'.

THE DAILY CROSSWORD

by Eugene Puffenberger



ACROSS

- 1 Nelly
- 8 — this night...
- 10 Actress
- 11 Thompson
- 14 A Musketeer
- 15 — avis
- 16 Carriage in Canterbury
- 17 Fourteen pounds
- 18 The whole —
- 20 Impresario
- 21 Hurk
- 22 Sound of reproval
- 23 Environment
- 24 Abstract being
- 25 Tired for office
- 27 Mysteries
- 30 To some extent
- 34 A Guttie
- 35 Kind of squash
- 37 Boutique
- 38 Six abbr.
- 39 — ing and breathe!
- 40 Bobby of hockey
- 41 Speaks fast
- 43 Bongo and labor
- 45 Die — (Adenauer)
- 46 Slick fast
- 48 — Bernum
- 50 Sch. term
- 51 Once more
- 52 Colonized
- 55 NFL scores
- 57 Him and —
- 60 The whole —
- 62 River of France
- 64 in — (designating)
- 65 Foot of film
- 66 Keaton of him
- 67 Cat and canary
- 68 Mast
- 69 Bar legally

DOWN

- 1 Sower news agency
- 2 Prearranger
- 3 Made out of — (tissue)
- 4 Charged particle
- 5 African fly
- 6 Tough journey
- 7 Pail
- 8 And
- 10 Fracture aids
- 11 "I smell"
- 12 Art movement
- 13 Amo. amas, —
- 15 Building piece
- 22 Bristle
- 25 Mir sign
- 27 Israel
- 28 Went wrong
- 29 Battle signs
- 30 Preen
- 31 Kind of bread
- 32 Main artery
- 33 WWI battle site
- 36 Col. —
- 37 school letters
- 43 Behaves
- 44 Food fish
- 45 Sue — Langdon
- 47 Depend

49 — out (reversed)

52 Easy job

53 Ireland

54 Toolbox item

55 Inspira person

56 Ruler

58 Cartoonist Peter

59 City

61 Gnome

abbr.

63 Fam. member

Iran hopes new law will make free zones a success

Jordan Times'

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

Nigeria's military leader sacks government, suspends parliament

LAGOS (R) — Nigeria's new military leadership said the interim government no longer existed following the resignation of its head, Ernest Shonekan.

State radio said the House of Representatives, the lower chamber of the elected National Assembly, had been adjourned indefinitely.

"Soldiers took charge of security at the gate of the International Conference Centre, where the National Assembly normally meets" in the inland capital Abuja, the radio said.

"Members, however, entered the premises only to find a notice announcing the indefinite adjournment of the House of Representatives because of the present political developments," it added in a broadcast from the commercial capital Lagos.

The radio did not make clear who posted the notices and had no news on the fate of the Senate, the upper chamber.

A military spokesman earlier announced the end of the unelected interim government installed by former military leader Ibrahim Babangida when he stood down at the end of August.

"With chief Shonekan's resignation, the interim national

government is also out," military spokesman Brigadier-General Fred Chijuka told reporters after a meeting between the new head of state General Sani Abacha and military brass.

Brig. Chijuka said Gen. Abacha had the full support of the armed forces and had met officers from the rank of brigadier upwards for nearly two hours.

"He was asking us for contributions on how we feel the government should be run," he said.

Gen. Abacha, 50, was preparing his first national address as head of state and commander in chief of the armed forces Thursday.

Nigeria's pro-democracy alliance, which fought to topple the unelected government, welcomed the exit of Mr. Shonekan but urged people to stay home until Gen. Abacha unfolds his political plans.

It hinted that its response to Gen. Abacha would depend on his attitude to scrapped June 12 presidential elections.

"We think Shonekan's resignation is a positive development," said Beko Ransome-Kuti, head of the Campaign For Democracy (CD). "We

call on all Nigerians to continue to stay at home... until the broadcast of General Abacha believing the reasonable demands of the people will be met," he told Reuters.

Mr. Ransome-Kuti said CD was hoping that Gen. Abacha, who became Nigeria's seventh military ruler Wednesday, would uphold the results of the election widely believed to have been won by businessman Moshood Abiola. "If things turn out differently we have to react appropriately," he said.

Mr. Shonekan threw in the towel amid a general strike over his government's widely unpopular decision to raise fuel prices sixfold. Pro-democracy activists also weighed in with more protests against his military-installed government, declared illegal by a Lagos High Court last week.

Many elected officials guessing Gen. Abacha's motives said they did not expect the general to embark on a one-man rule.

"I am sure he does not want to be another military dictator," said Senator Bola Tinubu.

"His utterances in the past have reflected his concern for discipline, honour and patriotism of the military," the Social Democratic Party senator told

Reuters. Gen. Abacha was the defence minister and only serving military officer in the interim government until he assumed power after Mr. Shonekan's surprise resignation Wednesday.

Gen. Abacha's takeover is a direct result of the political crisis caused by Gen. Babangida's decision to discard the result of the election for his successor, just as Mr. Abiola was ahead.

Mr. Abiola's supporters and pro-democracy campaigners have staged several protests to get the election result upheld.

Britain Friday deplored the decision by Nigeria's new military leader to ban politics and dismantle democratic institutions.

"We deplore the decision of the Nigerian military to take back power and, as announced last night, to dissolve all democratically elected institutions," Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd told parliament.

Mr. Hurd said Britain would consult "international partners" on further steps which might be taken in response to this "backward step."

The United States and Britain, the former colonial power, have imposed limited sanctions in protest.



Patients in a Sarajevo hospital protect themselves from the cold in a ward. The hospital was without heat due to the lack of natural gas (AFP photo).

Bosnia factions agree on aid convoys

SARAJEVO (R) — Leaders of all three warring factions in Bosnia agreed Thursday in Geneva to allow safe passage for aid convoys, prompting the United Nations to recommend the resumption of supplies to central Bosnia.

Serb, Croat and Muslim leaders signed an accord to "suspend hostilities" across Bosnia in a meeting organised by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Sadako Ogata.

But while ethnic leaders spoke about humanitarian aid in Geneva, U.N. peacekeepers were prevented from bringing food to a Muslim-controlled mental hospital west of Sarajevo where hundreds of patients are trapped without heating, U.N. officials said.

Bosnian Serb women refused to allow the peacekeepers to deliver food to the hospital at Pazarić until Serb men held prisoner were released by the Muslim-led Bosnian army, the United Nations said.

Some of the mental patients were wandering naked in freezing temperatures, said Ray Wilkinson, a UNHCR spokesman in Sarajevo.

Aid convoys have been repeatedly hampered by violence, demonstrations and petty bureaucracy, and the United Nations cancelled deliveries to central Bosnia after a Danish truck driver was killed last month.

After the three leaders signed the pact, diplomats in Geneva gave warning that similar ceasefire agreed during the 19-month-old civil war had soon collapsed.

According to a senior military source in the Bosnian Defence Council (HVO), the new commander of the HVO sees gaining territory back in Bosnia as his top priority, not negotiations or humanitarian aid.

"We think the meeting in Geneva today is a complete waste of time," the source, who asked not to be named, told Reuters before the meeting started.

But Mrs. Ogata told a news conference: "The difference between the papers signed today and those in the past is that this is the first time I got all the three parties to sign together."

The declaration, signed by Bosnian Prime Minister Haris Silajdzic, Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and Bosnian Croat leader Mate Boban, said the United Nations should be given full freedom to decide what kind of aid is sent where.

The pact also provided for the release of "all civilians unlawfully detained."

The UNHCR said in a statement the three sides had not been able to agree on the reopening of Tuzla Airport in northern Bosnia.

In central Bosnia, a British U.N. commander said his troops were ready to escort convoys again. "If and when aid convoys are resumed, we will do all we can to secure their safe passage," said Major Andrew Johnson, commander of a company of Coldstream Guards based at the edge of Goranji Vakuf.

For three days, Croat artil-

lery, mortars and rockets have pounded Muslim positions in the Duhrosin Valley near Goranji Vakuf, a Reuters correspondent reported.

The valley offers the Croat forces a route to the northeast, through Muslim-held Fojnica to Croat-held Kiseljak.

U.N. military sources say Croat bombardments are aimed at blocking a Muslim push south that could link their bastions of Zenica and Tuzla with Konjic and Jajlanica in the south.

German officials in Bonn said Thursday they were confident the European Community would approve a Franco-German peace proposal for Bosnia that advocates eventual easing of U.N. sanctions against Serbia in return for peace.

EC foreign ministers meet Monday to discuss the plan, drawn up by German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel and French counterpart Alain Juppe.

The Franco-German proposal suggests the Serbs should cede to the Muslims three per cent of the territory they control in Bosnia. In return, the international community would offer Belgrade a promise gradually to ease U.N. sanctions.

In the Hague, the U.N. Yugoslav War Crimes Tribunal said it had elected Judge Antonio Cassese of Italy as its first president.

The tribunal's 11 judges were sworn in Wednesday at the start of the tribunal's inaugural session.

U.S. studies ways to boost condom use

ATLANTA (AP) — U.S. government health scientists are seeking new ways of increasing condom use to prevent the spread of AIDS, the leading killer of men ages 25-44. The idea is to tailor counseling programmes to reach those who may be persuaded to protect themselves against disease — such as women who are reluctant to broach the subject of condoms with their primary sex partners. "We've tried simple educational messages and suspect that they're not very helpful, but maybe we have not been approaching counseling correctly," said Dr. Mary Kamb, an epidemiologist at the centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). A survey of almost 700 people who visited clinics last spring for treatment of sexually transmitted diseases found that most of them might be thinking about using condoms but aren't using them. Many more women than men were found to be in the "contemplative" stage — considering regular use of a condom with their main sex partner — while men were in what was called the "precontemplative" stage, meaning they almost never used them or had no intention of using them regularly.

Woman accused of castrating husband to visit him

LOS ANGELES (AFP) — A 35-year-old woman accused of cutting off her husband's testicles with a pair of scissors won a court order allowing her to spend holidays with him and their three children, Aurelia Macias, who is facing charges of spousal battery and mayhem, asked Superior Court Judge Marsha Revel Thursday to lift a restraining order so she could spend Thanksgiving and Christmas with her family, James Macias, 39, told authorities his testicles were cut off while he was sleeping on Sept. 20, 1992. Macias, 35, had claimed her husband had abused her and come home drunk the night of the incident. She has pleaded innocent of both counts against her, which carry a maximum 12 year prison sentence. Her trial is set for Jan. 6. The husband has expressed desire to reconcile with his wife of 17 years, and joined her in requesting Judge Revel to lift the restraining order. But Deputy District Attorney Lawrence Longo said, "I don't care what his feelings are towards the case. It's a crime." Judge Revel rejected a request by defence lawyers to dismiss the mayhem charge against the wife after Mr. Longo presented a medical report detailing the castration.

Outdoor porn upsets the geese

PIA, France (AFP) — A team of outdoor pornographers has shocked the people of this south-western French village by filming sex acts on roofs, car bonnets, a billiard table and a hotel swimming pool. All are in full view of the neighbours and the simulated orgasms of the actresses upset their geese — sparking a chorus of hissing and cackling, said shopkeeper Joelle Cinca. "I've had enough they do it anywhere: with no attempt to keep out of sight," said Cinca. A member of "SOS-Animals" an animal protection group, Cinca keeps four geese, a male and three females, in her garden next to a 12-room luxury hotel hired by the leading French porn film-maker Delfi. When the cameras are rolling and the lighting is on, the geese start up, said Cinca, who has made a complaint to police. "Last week it was raining but that didn't stop them making love on the hotel roof. I'm not a peeping Tom, but these women growl like animals. 'Not even, because my geese do it quietly.' Delfi director Emmanuelle complained the birds were upsetting her soundmen. 'Also these geese wake very early in the morning and stop the actors from getting a proper rest, I could demand damages as well.' A housewife said she could see live pornography from her kitchen window. 'I was peeling the potatoes one day when I saw a homosexual scene between three young men. After that, they built a wall to block the view.' Another neighbour said she could see 'a lot of things' from the window of her daughter's bedroom which overlooks the swimming pool and the billiard table. Delfi employs 50 people in Pia, near Perpignan, and claims an annual turnover of 80 million francs (\$13.56 million). Said Emmanuelle: "Our critics are jealous voyeurs."

Angola peace talks resume after snag

LUSAKA (R) — Talks in Lusaka to end Angola's civil war were back on track Friday after government negotiators dropped their demand that civilian supporters of the UNITA rebel movement be disarmed, diplomatic sources said.

"Things are moving. Yes, the Angolan delegation dropped its demand," one said.

A scheduled session was scrapped Thursday after UNITA objected to the government demand.

It was eventually held Friday morning and more talks were planned, another source said. The resumption followed urgent meetings between U.N. special envoy Alioune Blondin Beye, Angolan government negotiators, and diplomatic

observers from the United States, Russia and Portugal. The latest effort to negotiate an end to a war the United Nations calls the world's worst began in the Zambian capital Monday.

The conflict began after Angola's independence from Portugal in 1975, with the then cold war superpowers backing rival sides.

A peace accord in May 1991 brought a brief peace but war flared again when UNITA lost U.N.-supervised elections in September 1992, more than 1,000 people are dying each day, foreign aid officials say.

"After agreement had been reached on most issues to be discussed, the Angolan government delegation introduced at the last minute an item that

civilian members of UNITA should be disarmed," one source said.

"UNITA opposed this, saying that... the government actually had tens of thousands of armed civilians, including about 700,000 in the capital Luanda alone," the source said.

A source quoted a member of UNITA (National Union for the Total Independence of Angola) as telling delegates his group considered the government demand to be an obstacle to peace.

"It's time we got into business. We are dealing with people's lives and the war must end now instead of having these obstacles," the UNITA member was reported as saying.

Russian election commission approves candidates

MOSCOW (AFP) — Russia's elections commission released Friday a preliminary list of 970 candidates in next month's parliamentary vote, of which 60 were members of the former old-guard parliament.

The nominees will be running for seats in the 225 constituencies of the state Duma, the lower house of the parliament, and for the 178 seats of the upper chamber, the Federation Council.

They will be elected by a single-ballot majority vote while an additional 225 seats to the state Duma will be filled by candidates chosen from party lists and based on a proportional vote.

The Elections Commission rejected the candidacies of former speaker Ruslan Khasbulatov, hardliner Ilya Konstantinov and the leader of the Union of Officers Stanislav Terekhov in line with a presidential decree barring 21 leaders of the Oct. 3 and 4 armed parliamentary revolt from the election.

Their candidacy was presented by supporters in the constituencies of the Daghestan capital of Makhachkala, the Siberian city of Novosibirsk and the central Russian city of Volgograd, respectively.

The three are currently under arrest on charges of "organising mass disturbances" and are awaiting trial in Moscow's Lefortovo Prison along with other leaders of the uprising that was crushed by President Boris Yeltsin.

U.K. schoolboy admits killing toddler

PRESTON, England (R) — The jury in a toddler murder trial heard a tearful confession Thursday and was told defence lawyers would provide no evidence on behalf of two schoolboys accused of his savage killing.

A 10-year-old boy said he and his laughing classmate killed two-year-old James Bulger, who had looked up and cried "please don't hurt me" when he was already half-way to death.

"I killed James," the boy, referred to as Child B, told police after his parents had sat down beside him on a police station bench, hugged him and said they would still love him, whatever he had done.

Howling with tears, he confessed and asked a policeman:

"What about his mum? Will you tell her I'm sorry?"

A detective, questioning him after his arrest in February in a taped interview played to the jury, asked the boy what he thought of what he had done.

"Terrible. I was thinking about it all the time," he said. "I was going to give myself up." Prosecutors say comments like these show the two boys knew that what they were doing was evil, something they must prove in order to convict children under 15 of murder.

Because of their age, neither can be named.

Child B and his co-accused Child A, both now aged 11, pleaded not guilty to kidnapping Bulger from his mother at Shops and, using bricks and a 10 kilogrammes iron bar, hat-

tering him to death by a Liverpool railway where a train then sliced the half-naked corpse in two.

The prosecution says both boys bloodied their hands equally and dismisses each one's claim to police that it was the other's fault.

"I didn't want to hurt him really," B said. "(A) was probably doing it for fun or something, cos he was laughing his head off." Child B said he begged his former best friend to stop hitting Bulger.

"The baby just kept getting back up again, he would not stay down."

"He was not so scared of me," he added. "He grabbed me and he said 'please don't hurt me' and I went 'alright'."

The tapes ended the prosecution's case.

Major maps out back-to-basics blueprint

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister John Major has promised to tackle crime, improve teaching and strengthen the economy, as part of a new "back to basics" agenda for Britain.

The legislative package for the 1993-94 parliamentary session amounts to an attempt by Mr. Major to reunite the governing Conservative Party around a non-controversial platform after 18 months of bitter arguments over Europe.

"I believe these are the right policies because they provide the foundations for a successful, tolerant society," Mr. Major told parliament.

"We can raise standards in our schools, make our streets safer, and make our economy more competitive by building on these basic values."

Mr. Major also reinforced his controversial offer of talks with the Irish Republican Army (IRA) to find a political settlement in Northern Ireland if the gunmen lay down their arms and end a conflict that has sapped British energy for decades.

His efforts to revive his political fortunes — and those of his party — received a big boost Thursday from news of the highest monthly fall in unemployment for 4-1/2 years.

Mr. Major said the good news was a direct result of his

government's success in reducing inflation to a 30-year low. "We now have the opportunity of a long period of sustained growth with low inflation," he told a packed House of Commons.

John Smith, leader of the opposition Labour Party, accused Mr. Major of trying to divert attention from the Conservatives' record of rising crime, homelessness and unemployment.

"After 14 years in office, back to basics is no more, no less, than an appalling admission of failure," Mr. Smith said to cheers from Labour supporters.

The lawmakers had earlier joined ermine-robed peers in the unelected House of Lords to hear Queen Elizabeth read out the government's programme from a gilded throne.

With opinion polls showing crime to be the country's biggest concern, Mr. Major vowed to clamp down on hooligans, persistent teenage offenders, jail persistent offenders and abolish the accused's right to silence, a major plank of British justice.

Police, themselves the target of a major administrative shakeup, will have tougher new powers to deal with child pornography and squatters.

On Northern Ireland major said substantial progress had

already been made in bilateral talks with parties in the troubled province and, if it would help, the British government was ready to put proposals of its own on the table.

But he said Britain would not pay any price for peace, and the IRA had in prove it had renounced violence: "The democratic process is there for all who can show they abide by its rules. But there will be no rewards for terrorists."

Mr. Major's legislative blueprint went down well with his often fractious supporters.

With a majority of just 17 in the 651-seat House of Commons, the prime minister needs to avoid a repeal of the sort of revolt over the Maastricht Treaty on European union that almost toppled his government in July.

Apart from cracking down on crime, Mr. Major pledged to cut red tape, make Britain's secret service more accountable to parliament and put forward plans to privatise British coal, delayed after an embarrassing climbdown over mine closures.

Queen Elizabeth's family was mostly absent Thursday when she made her traditional speech at Britain's state opening of parliament in pomp and ceremony unchanged for 450 years.

The monarch addressed both houses of parliament in a policy speech written by the government.

The head of state, who ascended the throne 40 years ago, seemed more alone in terms of family than in times past.

Only husband Prince Philip was there to lend support, holding her hand as she made her way to a gilded throne in the House of Lords to outline Mr. Major's legislative programme for the coming session.

Heir to the throne Prince Charles, who separated from Princess Diana last November, was absent from one of Britain's greatest pageants as was Princess Diana.

Another son, Prince Andrew, who has also separated his wife, the Duchess of York, last year, sent his apologies.

Two cousins, the Dukes of Gloucester and Kent, turned up but Princess Margaret, who accompanied her sister last year, was absent as the queen read out the plans of "my government."

Wearing the jewel-studded imperial state crown and trailing an ermine robe as long as a bowling alley, the queen was welcomed with a bow by several hundred politicians, ambassadors and their consorts as she entered the chamber.

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Chinese weightlifting winning streak ends

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — A shoulder injury to Xing Shuwen, robbed China Friday of its perfect record in women's competition at the World Weightlifting Championships — and indirectly sparked a political row.

Xing easily won the snatch gold medal in the new 83-kilogramme division with a lift of 107.5 kilograms (237 pounds), but injured her left shoulder in the process and had to withdraw from the clean-and-jerk.

That opened the door for Chen Shu-Chih of Chinese Taipei to win the gold medals both the jerk and overall total.

Chen, who took silver in the snatch with 102.5 kg (226 pounds), hoisted 127.5 kg (281 pounds) in the jerk for a winning total of 230 kg (507 pounds).

A row broke out after the gold medal ceremony when organisers declined to play an anthem for Chinese Taipei, leaving the medalists standing in silence.

Chang Chao-Kuo, the head of the Chinese Taipei delegation, lodged an official protest and Chen said she was "hitter-

ly disappointed."

Organisers said they were bound by International Olympic Committee (IOC) rules which permit only the IOC anthem to be played when Taiwan wins international sporting contests.

China and Taiwan have had political differences since 1949, when the island state declared its independence. China claims Taiwan as part of its territory. Officials said it was the responsibility of the Chinese Taipei delegation to provide the IOC anthem.

Chang said the Chinese Taipei delegation had provided their National Olympic Committee anthem, which was played when they won a gold medal on the opening day of competition, but had subsequently been deemed inappropriate by the organisers.

Lilly Coffa, a member of the Championship Organising Committee, said no IOC anthem was available.

Chen won a world title a her sixth attempt. She had twice finished second overall.

"I feel very happy, but upset at the same time," said the 23-year-old sports coach.

Xing had been bidding for a sixth overall title for Chinese women, who had won every previous division they had contested.

China did not contest the women's 46-kilogramme division on the opening day or the 70-kilogramme division Wednesday.

Panag Adonopoulou of Greece won bronze in the snatch and silver in the jerk and total, while Bharti Singh of India of India bronze for both the jerk and total.

Competition in the men's 99-kilogramme division was scheduled for later Friday.

These championships are the first event in which world records can be officially recognised in new weight classes introduced earlier this year.

The new classes have been introduced as the sport continues its crackdown on drug abuse in an attempt to have "Clean" world records in each of the new divisions.

The women's competition concludes Saturday at the Royal Exhibition Building, while men's events continue through Sunday.

Heavyweights line up for World Cup

LONDON (Agencies) — American World Cup organisers can breathe a sigh of relief now most of soccer's heavyweights will line up next June for the game's four-yearly extravaganza.

Despite some last minute upsets, including the elimination of former winners England, twice semisfinalists France and European Champions Denmark, America's largely uninitiated public will be able to learn from the top footballing sides why the rest of the world loves the game.

Three times winners Brazil, traditionally one of the most entertaining and individually skilled teams, will be there, challenging ever-consistent reigning champions Germany, mercurial Italy and arch-rivals Argentina.

But Italy and Argentina only got through at the last gasp.

The Italians qualified Wednesday night through an 83rd minute goal against Portugal, much to the relief of organising committee chief Alan Rothenberg, who was watching the game in Milan from the VIP stand.

"Let's put it this way," Rothenberg said. "They were passing out Italian flags before the game and while I couldn't wave it, I had it in my pocket and I was clutching it."

With so many Americans of Italian descent, the non-appearance of the three times winners would have been a disaster.

Argentina, winners in 1978 and 1986 and last year's beaten finalists, were the last team to qualify, scrambling to an unlikely 1-0 win over the unfancied Australians in Buenos Aires. Their victory means crowd will be able to enjoy the dazzling, if now slightly more ponderous, skills of Diego Maradona for a fourth successive World Cup.

Nine European teams left it to the last group games Wednesday to qualify.

After a poor start to their campaign, the Netherlands, beaten finalists twice in the 1970s, booked a place in the United States, with a 3-1 win over Poland.

Dutch fans cheered coach Dick Advocaat after the match. Their victory tinged with sadness that the man who had managed to turn their side's fortunes would probably not be leading the team in America.

Advocaat's contract runs until the finals after which he is likely to hand over the reins to footballing hero Johan Cruyff currently managing Barcelona.

The Dutch success came at the expense of 1966 winners England, whose humiliation has stirred up anguished debate at home about how the national side should be coached and prepared.

Manager Graham Taylor is likely to lose his job and one candidate tipped for the post is Ireland manager Jack Charlton, who won a medal with England 27 years ago.

Ireland scraped through Wednesday in place of Denmark by virtue of the number of goals they scored, though their points and goal average were identical. Denmark lost to Spain on Wednesday by a single goal while Ireland drew 1-1 with Northern Ireland.

The Danes who delighted much of Europe last year with their unexpected win over Germany in the European Championships were angry and bitter in defeat, with press and television blaming bad refereeing. A banner headline in the tabloid Ekstrabladet read: "Referee stole World Cup dream. Robbery."

Spain are among a number of sides expected to give the big guns a hard time in the United States. Both Norway, who topped the group containing Netherlands and England, and Sweden have proved in qualifying they are tough to beat.

And Colombia qualified with 2-1 and 5-0 victories over Argentina forcing them to the play-off with Australia. Mexico can expect a lot of support from soccer-mad immigrants as well as fans pouring over the border.

But it is the underdogs who often produce some of the most entertaining matches in the finals. In 1990 Cameroon delighted crowds with their ebullient play and became the first African side to reach the quarterfinals where they were narrowly beaten by England.

Next year Cameroon are back again, accompanied by Nigeria and Morocco from Africa and with Saudi Arabia and South Korea making up the Asian contingent.

Rothenberg, who admitted he was relieved England had not qualified because of hool-

igan problems and that Iran and Iraq were also out because of potential security headaches, said he was happy with his final lineup.

"I think we are left with a great mixture of most of the great soccer nations in the world... and also Cinderella Texas," he said.

Europe's Cinderellas include Greece, who topped their group, booking their place way back in May and Switzerland who beat Italy on their way to America, reaching the finals for the first time for 28 years.

Ecstatic fans celebrated in Zurich Wednesday night honking horns, banking drums... and clanging cowbells.

Romanians and Bulgarians, Balkan neighbours beset by poverty and drudgery, finally have something to celebrate — trips to the World Cup.

It was some of the best news for either country since the ouster of their Communist dictatorships four years ago.

"Hey, hey, USA," shouted jubilant crowds that poured into Bucharest's chilly streets after Romania beat Wales 2-1 in Cardiff Wednesday night to qualify.

"Better Raducioiu than Vacaroiu" was another popular chant honouring the nation's new hero, Florin Raducioiu, who scored the winning goal.

Nicolae Vacaroiu is Romania's beleaguered premier, whom many blame for the country's grip post-Communist economic woes.

Politics also took a back seat to sports in Sofia, where Bulgaria's parliament put off a no-confidence vote in the government because of Wednesday night's televised game.

Bulgaria beat France 2-1 in Paris, sending cheering fans into Sofia's wintery streets. The beleaguered government wasted little time trying to latch on to the victor's coat-tails.

But Premier Lyuben Berov was disappointed when he showed up at the airport at 5 p.m. Thursday to greet the team's charter flight. Only two players were aboard, the others apparently having missed the plane because they were celebrating in Paris night-spots.

There was little apparent political fallout. Mr. Berov survived the postponed no-confidence vote late Thursday

— the fourth such attempt to unseat his government.

The thrill wore off quickly for some Romanians, who have suffered staggering inflation and unemployment in the tough transition from communism to a market economy.

Later Thursday, about 15,000 people were on the streets of Bucharest protesting falling living standards.

But for a brief moment, Wednesday's victory has something everyone could celebrate.

opposition legislator Ion Ratiu declared it a "triumph" at a time "when everybody is trying to survive an economic disaster."

The news took up the entire front page of the daily Eveni-

mental Zilci. One headline said: "Good morning America, wherever you are."

"Events like the one in Cardiff last night bring us hope... for a better future," said editor Ion Cristoiu.

Petre Roman, the country's post-revolution premier who now leads the main opposition party, attributed the victory to pride and the professionalism of players who now play often in the West.

Players from Eastern Europe now face the new challenge of competing over offers from Western Soccer clubs and "do their best to make a name for themselves," Roman said.

"It's simple. It's market economy."

1994 World Cup draw pools

NEW YORK (AP) — Teams will be placed in four pools for the World Cup draw at Las Vegas on Dec. 19 and each four-team group will have one team from each pool.

The teams are divided into pools based on their showings in the three previous World Cups, with the first-place team receiving one point, the second-place team two points, etc. Teams failing to qualify receive 25 points.

In addition, results from 1986 are doubled and results from 1990 are trebled.

The United States is seeded into the first pool as host nation and Germany is seeded into the first pool as defending champion.

The United States will play in Group A (Pontiac, Mich., and Pasadena, Calif.) and Germany will play in Group C (Chicago and Dallas). Organisers also say Italy will play in Group E (East Rutherford, N.J., and Washington). The venues for the other seeded teams will be determined after the draw:

Pool One

United States (144), Germany (9), Argentina (19), Italy (34), Brazil (42), Belgium (51).

Pool Two

Spain (56), Russia (56), Cameroon (88), Ireland (99), Romania (111), Mexico (112).

Pool Three

Colombia (117), Netherlands (120), Morocco (122), Bulgaria (130), South Korea (131), Sweden (141).

Pool Four

Bolivia (150), Greece (150), Nigeria (150), Norway (150), Saudi Arabia (150), Switzerland (150).

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Sealed bid

Type of Sale:
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- Items will be available for inspection on sale day.
- All bids must be submitted during the hours shown above.
- All bids must be accompanied by a deposit equal to 20% of the bid.
- Bids will be opened and successful bidders notified beginning Tuesday, Nov. 23, 1993.
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Pierce upsets Navratilova in New York

NEW YORK (AP) — Martina Navratilova met the future Thursday night. Her name is Mary Pierce. The game is power tennis.

Navratilova, playing in a tournament she won four times and facing on opponent less than half her age, lost 6-1, 3-6, 6-4 in the quarterfinals of the Virginia Slims Championships.

Pierce, 18, registered her second straight upset in this \$3.5 million season-ending tournament. She advanced to the semifinals where she will meet the winner of Friday night's match between No. 2 seed Arantxa Sanchez Vicario and No. 7 Jana Novotna.

Taking notice of what happened to the tournament's No. 3 seed, top-seeded Steffi Graf took no chances, crushing Amanda Coetzer 6-1, 6-2 to grab a semifinal berth against the winner of Friday's match between No. 4 Conchita Martinez and No. 8 Anke Huber.

Navratilova, 37, has said 1994 will be her final year on the tour. With her will go players whose games are built on touch, spin and guile. Remaining will be the young power hitters like Pierce and Monica Seles, whose idea of changing pace is hitting harder.

The Madison Square Garden crowd was solidly behind the woman who has won a record 166 tournaments.

Pierce didn't let that bother her, and by the end the fans were roaring for her laser groundstrokes and service returns.

Several times Navratilova muttered "yep" as the ball went whizzing past for a clean winner. On the final point, Pierce slammed a screeching forehand that found the far corner as Navratilova turned and walked off the court. She has seen enough winners in her 21-year professional career to know one.

The match wouldn't have been nearly as long - 1 hour, 56 minutes — nor as entertaining without the skill and determination of Navratilova.

Pierce couldn't miss to begin the night, and Navratilova had trouble unpacking her game.

Pierce, who now calls France home, overran the world's third-ranked player, breaking Navratilova at love in the fourth game and at 15 in the sixth. Twenty-four minutes into the match, Pierce zipped through the first set.

She began the second set as if she had a car double-parked, brabbing a love-40 lead on Navratilova's serve. But Navratilova didn't win more than 1,600 matches by folding.

Instead of heading to the net at every chance, Navratilova stayed back and traded groundstrokes. That meant

Pierce no longer had a target for her passing shots, nor did she have the sharp angles she had in the opening set.

Navratilova gained her second break point on Pierce's serve in the fourth game of the second set. She closed out the break when her forehand approach shot into the corner was returned into the net. It was the only service break of the set, but it was all Navratilova needed.

The confident Navratilova broke Pierce in the third game of the final set. But any prospects of a gripping victory were quickly dashed when Pierce crushed Navratilova's serve to break back at 15.

Navratilova took the lead again in the seventh game, which went to deuce three times and was the longest one of the match. Navratilova's backhand passing shot then sailed long. Pierce broke back, then broke again in the 10th game.

And Navratilova's hopes for a fifth Virginia Slims title were shelved until her final appearance next year.

Marseille boss threatens to blow the whistle

BESANCON, France (AFP) — Bernard Tapie has threatened to expose the "comedy" of French political life when the National Assembly votes to strip him of his parliamentary immunity.

"I'm no martyr," he said of moves which could lead to him being charged with embezzlement.

"I have often been de-

clared persona non grata in the different activities I have undertaken but you cannot get rid of me that easily," the Olympique Marseille Soccer Club owner told a local radio.

If the full parliament votes for lifting Tapie's immunity he could be charged for siphoning off money from one of his companies to pay for his election campaign and buy Chris Waddle from Tottenham Hotspur.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HIRSHI
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK8 ♣88 ♠AQJ54 ♠982
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
- Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠4 ♠AK98753 ♠Void ♠AJ743
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 2 ♠ ?
What action do you take?
- Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠K ♠AK64 ♠K9852 ♠A96
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
- Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠8432 ♠AK ♠74 ♠AKJ109
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass ?
What do you bid now?
- Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠KQJ1063 ♠K109 ♠K5 ♠A9
Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?
- Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠5 ♠A98742 ♠J762 ♠52
Partner opens the bidding with one spade. What do you respond?

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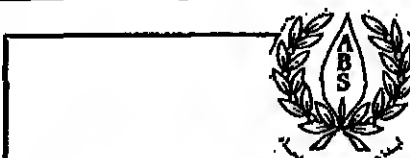
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	PHILADELPHIA		CONCORD		PLAZA		Nabil Al Mashini Theatre		AHLAN THEATRE
	JURASSIC PARK	Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30	CONCORD '1'	Harrison Ford — in The Fugitive	Dean Cameron in SKI SCHOOL	Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30	presents a play entitled: Al Iim Nuron	A popular political comedy Actors: Abeer Issa, Daoud Jalajel, Hassan Al Shaer, Fuad Shomali In addition to other comedians Every night at 8:15 Tickets are sold all day	The political comedy WELCOME ARAB SUMMIT Daily 8:30 p.m. The theatre closes Saturday and Sunday English synopsis available

12 Somali groups form alliance against Aideed

MOGADISHU (AFP) — Twelve factions opposed to warlord Mohammed Farah Aideed announced Friday that they had formed an alliance and urged U.S. and United Nations troops to stay in Somalia.

"Civil war will again come if the foreign forces do not disarm all the factions before they leave," said General Aideed's rival warlord, self-styled interim President Ali Mahdi Muhammad, leader of one of the 12 factions that have launched the Somali Salvation Alliance.

"We will not attack, but if Aideed tries to attack any movement or organisation, these 12 movements are ready to defend themselves," Mr. Ali Mahdi warned.

Gen. Aideed's artillery war against Mr. Ali Mahdi in 1991 and 1992 ruined most of central Mogadishu. The latest outbreak of fighting last month killed 17 people.

The alliance leaders ruled out face-to-face negotiations with Gen. Aideed unless he observes a ceasefire, disarms his militiamen and recognises local councils set up with U.N. help as agreed in March under U.N.-brokered peace accords.

Their call for a continued international force in Somalia has set them on a collision course with Gen. Aideed, who emerged Thursday from five months in hiding with a defiant call for foreign troops to quit and the U.N. to reduce its role to humanitarian aid.

Mr. Ali Mahdi told reporters he was "very, very sorry" that the U.N. had lifted the \$25,000 bounty on Gen. Aideed's head. "The killings of foreign soldiers and Somalis are bringing a good reward for Aideed, bringing him to liberty and now he is coming inside with the politicians and enjoying greater prestige," Mr. Ali

Mahdi said.

Visiting U.S. special envoy Robert Oakley has invited Gen. Aideed and the 12 faction leaders to attend a U.N.-sponsored humanitarian conference on Somalia opening in Addis Ababa on Nov. 29.

Mr. Oakley, who was to leave Mogadishu later Friday, said he hoped the meeting, also expected to assume a political dimension would "help the Somalis to pull themselves together."

The United Nations has extended its peacekeeping mandate for another six months until May, promising not to turn its back on Somalia, devastated by civil war and famine and without a government since the 1991 overthrow of dictator Mohammed Siad Barre.

Washington decided to withdraw its troops by March 31 after Aideed militiamen killed 18 U.S. soldiers on Oct. 3.

U.N. and U.S. troops hunkering down behind sandbags have already allowed armed Somali militiamen to regain control of Mogadishu's anarchic streets, again infested with armed bandits.

"We want peace, but Aideed is waiting for the U.S. to go, therefore we have to prepare to defend ourselves," said Mohammed Qanyare Afrah, chairman of the alliance's four-day founding congress which closed Friday.

Nigerian peacekeepers gathered at the Lufthansa Hotel, a generator-powered oasis of air-conditioned splendour in Mr. Ali Mahdi's shell-gated north Mogadishu stronghold.

The 12 allied factions appealed to the international community "not to pull out the U.N. and U.S. peacekeeping forces... until peace and stability are restored and a democratic system is established."

The alliance includes several

factions able to muster sizeable militias, diplomats said.

Among their leaders are onetime Siad Barre supporters such as his son-in-law Mohammed Said Hersi, known as General Morgan, and former rebel groups that fought the dictator's rule.

The alliance claims to enjoy the support of 98 per cent of Somalis. Diplomats dismissed the claim as exaggerated, but said the group did represent a significant number of Somali regions.

"Aideed is strong only in four square kilometres in south Mogadishu and two districts in the central regions," Mr. Qanyare said. "We represent 18 regions."

U.N. aide issues warning

A senior United Nations official warned Friday that the international community could abandon Somalia if the forthcoming humanitarian conference on Somalia did not come up with a plan to enable Somalis take control of their country's affairs.

Steffan de Misturi, representative for the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) in Somalia, said the meeting, to be held in Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, from Nov. 29 to Dec. 1 came at a time when international community was getting "disenchanted" with Somalia.

Mr. De Misturi told a news conference in Nairobi the meeting was an opportunity for the Somalis "to address in an organised way, and say we would like to take the ownership of our future."

"If it doesn't work we may end up in a new Afghanistan, in other words an abandonment of the country and that would be tragic," he added. He said the meeting was a chance for the possible "beginning of a new Somalia."

Baghdad assails U.N. chemical mission

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — U.N. inspectors arrived here Friday to investigate reports of chemical attacks on marsh Arabs but faced charges they were stalling to avoid progress on lifting the U.N. embargo on Iraq.

The nine-member team of doctors and chemical experts is to travel to the southern marshes to investigate reports that the Iraqi army used chemical weapons on villagers there.

Iraq said Friday the inspectors were refusing to release their findings in order to delay progress towards lifting the U.N. embargo on Iraq.

The official Iraqi News Agency (INA) quoted Foreign Minister Mohammed Said Al Sahaf as saying the doctors and chemical experts had kept silent over their findings from a trip to southern Iraq earlier this week "to leave suspicion hanging over Iraq" during talks between Iraqi and U.N. disarmament officials.

The inspection was being carried out "in a hostile manner, with the aim of showing confusion in the U.N. Security Council," Mr. Sahaf said. The team was refusing to release the results of its investigation in Iraq to "prolong the mission while technical and political talks continue" between Iraqi and U.N. officials, he added.

However, he said that Iraq would allow the inspectors to go ahead with their mission in the south.

Iraq is seeking an end to the sanctions imposed after its invasion of Kuwait in August 1990. The Security Council extended the embargo on Thursday.

The chemical experts spent three days in the southern Iranian province of Khuzestan, bordering Iraq.

PLO promises honesty with aid

CAIRO (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is hiring a management consultancy and a firm of auditors to help ensure that huge sums of aid money given for the West Bank and Gaza Strip are spent honestly, a senior PLO official said on Thursday.

Aid donors, concerned about reports of corruption and mismanagement in the PLO, insisted at a meeting in Paris this month that there must be clear procedures to track aid money and supervise those responsible for it.

"Two contracts are being negotiated actually, one with an international management consultancy consortium and one with a very famous house for auditing," PLO strategist Nabil Shaath told a news conference when asked how the PLO was responding.

"I think that very soon there will be a public effort to translate these studies into actual norms and forms whereby contracting will be by international public bidding, procurement will be international public bidding, and audited statements will be published periodically,"

he said. "We will go the whole way, not only in assuring the donors but also in assuring our own people."

Donors and many ordinary Palestinians were disturbed that PLO leader Yasser Arafat appointed himself head of the Palestine Emergency Development and Reconstruction Agency (PEDRA), which is due to handle \$2 billion in aid over the next five years.

An outline peace accord signed by Israel and the PLO in September gives Palestinians limited self-government in the West Bank and Gaza Strip for an interim period of five years. A first withdrawal of Israeli troops is due to start on Dec. 13.

Norwegian Foreign Minister Johan Joergen Holst, whose mediation enabled Israel and the PLO to reach the historic accord in August, visited Mr. Arafat at his headquarters in Tunis on Tuesday and diplomats said he raised the donors' concerns.

Mr. Holst is chairman of an ad-hoc committee coordinating

aid to the West Bank and Gaza.

Mr. Arafat will have to answer donors' questions during a series of visits to Europe in the next three weeks. He was in Spain on Thursday and is due to go to Norway on Nov. 25, Sweden on Nov. 26-27, and Germany at the beginning of December.

Mr. Arafat is also under pressure from critics within the PLO, who complain that he has too much power and the PLO must become more professional if it is to move from being a revolutionary movement to a responsible government.

Executive committee member Suleiman Nabaj gave Mr. Arafat a petition this week demanding major reforms. It was drafted by Palestinians who support the peace accord but fear Mr. Arafat is failing to implement it properly.

Haider Abdul Shafi, who led Palestinian negotiators in two years of formal Middle East peace talks with Israel in Washington, was the most prominent signatory.

Juppe finds Jordan ready for cooperation

(Continued from page 1)

The Madrid formula calls for separate bilateral talks between Israel and the four Arab parties directly involved in the Middle East conflict — the Palestinians, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon — under the sponsorship of the United States and Russia, the co-sponsors of the peace process.

But the PLO and Israel reached their Sept. 13 accord in secret. Jordan and Israel have signed an agenda outlining the principles for a peace accord.

Syrian-Israeli negotiations are deadlocked over the Golan Heights and observers say it is unlikely that Lebanon and the Jewish state would make any progress unless there was a breakthrough in the Israeli-Syrian track of negotiations.

According to the source close to Mr. Juppe, President Assad did not make clear "what he wanted" during his talks with the French minister Thursday.

"It is a peculiar Syrian position," said the source, adding that it seemed unlikely that Damascus would make any immediate move towards breaking the deadlock with Israel.

Analysts said Syria appeared to be awaiting the mission to the Middle East next month of U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Mr. Sharaa appeared to support this theory when he said in Damascus earlier that his country expected progress to be made when Mr. Christopher arrives in the region. He said the secretary of state had telephoned him last week saying that "he had some fresh

ideas which could crystallise after his talks with Rabin."

Mr. Juppe reaffirmed the French stand that Middle East peace should be based on the implementation of all U.N. Security Council resolutions. He specifically called for Israeli withdrawal from the Golan as well as the departure from Lebanon of all foreign forces.

In comments before departure from Beirut after talks with President Elias Hrawi, Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri, Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri, Foreign Minister Fares Bouze and Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir on Friday, Mr. Juppe reiterated the French stand and restated France's commitment to "the freedom, territorial integrity and independence of Lebanon."

Loss of incumbent deputies reflects shifting priorities of electorate

By Marianne M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Only 26 of the 64 former deputies who sought reelection to the Lower House of Parliament on Nov. 8, succeeded. Political observers and commentators say that the failure of the 38 was a reflection of how the priorities and attitudes of politically active Jordanians have changed over the last four years.

In the more industrial areas like Zarqa, Mafrqa and Amman's Fourth District as well as the Central Bedouin district changes to popular representation were less than in other larger districts such as Karak, Balqa, Irbid and Amman's Third and Fifth Districts. In the "industrial districts," at least 50 per cent of the incumbents were reelected. In the larger districts 33 per cent of the incumbents were reelected.

In smaller electoral districts such as Madaba (Amman's sixth District), Jerash, Ajloun, Ramtha and Bani Kenana and the Southern Bedouin districts no incumbent deputy won reelection. The election results appear to be directly related to how the electorate saw its immediate interests, specifically its economic well-being. The election results in most of the areas where the Islamic Action Front (IAF) failed to gain seats was largely a reflection of the economic interests rather than political promises.

Most of the successful non-Islamist candidates promised job creation and economic improvements. The IAF candidates, on the other hand, stressed political issues, often related to the peace process and "foreign affairs" issues such as Palestine and the oppression of pious Muslims in other countries.

The IAF

Eight of the 18 IAF deputies, including two allied Muslim Brotherhood deputies, are Jordanians of Palestinian origin. This means that just over half the Jordanians of Palestinian origin in the Lower House (a total of 14) are Islamists. The voter turn-out reached only 30 per cent among Jordanians of Palestinian origin, according to political analysts at the Al Urdun Al Jadid Research Centre. The high success rate of Islamic candidates among this part of the population,

conservatively estimated to be 40 per cent of Jordan's population, indicates that among those Palestinians who are politically active, the prevailing mood was to accept the IAF slogan of "Islam was the solution."

While the 11th Parliament contains several relatively "moderate" IAF members — most of them of Transjordanian origin — the IAF incumbents, with one exception — Abdul Rahim Ekour from Irbid — form the hardline political core of the IAF. The more "moderate" former IAF deputies that lost their election bid include former House Speaker Abdul Latif Arabiyat, Fuad Khalafat, Abdul Hafith Al Alawi, Mohammad Al Azaideh and Talal Al Omari.

More hardline Islamists like Mohammad Oweida (Balqa) Abdul Majid Al Aqtash (Madaba) and Suleiman Al Saad Al Khalaf (Jerash) were elected. Mr. Oweida and Mr. Aqtash are Jordanians of Palestinian origin which replaced Transjordanian IAF members in their constituencies. Unlike Mr. Oweida and Mr. Aqtash, Mr. Khalafat broke IAF grounds in Jerash where no IAF deputy was previously. Also, unlike the other two newcomers to Parliament, his constituency was not Palestinian but predominantly tribal and Transjordanian.

In sum, the hardline IAF candidates were successful in their reelection bid while the more moderate or docile ones were not.

Two independent Islamists, Jamal Sarairoh (Karak) and Abdul Baqi Gammo (Zarka), managed to get reelected while Ali Fakhr (Amman's First District) and Youssef Mbeideen (Karak) did not.

Mr. Mbeideen and Mr. Fakhr both served in the Cabinet of Mudar Badran. Mr. Fakhr was considered an individualist hardliner. Mr. Mbeideen was seen as a moderate team player.

The left

Among prominent leftists, pan-Arabists and liberals, the trend was almost exactly the opposite from that of the Islamists. Among incumbents representing this part of the political spectrum, which are exclusively Transjordanian, most hardliners lost seats in favour of more perceived moderate newcomers.

Of the eight Pan-Arabists, liberals and leftists who sought reelection, only two,

Bassam Haddadin (Zarka) and Abdul Karim Al Dughmi (Mafrqa) were reelected.

Pan-Arabists Husni Shihab (Irbid), Hussein Mujalli (Jerash), liberals Faris Nabulsi, Fakhr Kavar, Mansour Murad (all from Amman's Third District) and leftist Issa Madanat (Karak) all failed in their reelection bid.

The group of eight was a leading force behind the 1989-92 anti-corruption campaign and were among the advocates for the pro-Iraq stand that Jordanians took during the Gulf crisis. Mr. Nabulsi was one of the main advocates of secular rights in the Lower House.

Four former liberal, pan-Arab and leftist deputies did not run for reelection. They were Deeb Marji (Irbid), Saleem Zoubi and Mohammad Dardour (Ramtha) and Mohammad Faris Tarawneh (Karak).

Toujan Faisal, Samir Habashneh (Karak), Mustapha Sbueikat (Balqa), Abdul Hafez Al Shakbanbeh (Madaba), Mohammad Daoudieh (Tafileh) and Khalil Haddadin (Amman Third District) are all pan-Arab, liberal and leftist newcomers to the House and it remains to be seen if they will advocate as much dialogue in the Lower House as their predecessors.

The Christians

The nine Christian seats appeared to have gone to more traditional community leaders.

In the 1989 elections, five of the nine successful Christian candidates were believed to have Muslim Brotherhood (IAF) backing. By backing socially conservative Christian candidates the Brotherhood won their support in the House on common issues.

All the Christian deputies who were backed by the Muslim Brotherhood in 1989 ran for reelection but only one, Fawzi Shaker Tuamen (Balqa), was reelected. The others — Sa'ad Haddadin (Madaba), Jamal Haddadin (Ajloun), Fakhr Kavar and Abdullah Zreikat (Karak) — were almost all replaced by conservative tribal-oriented deputies. The only exception was in Amman Third District, where Khalil Haddadin, a Ba'athist, won the Christian seat.

Three of the four remaining Christian deputies ran for reelection as well as Samir Kavar (Balqa) a businessman and former minister,

and Bassam Haddadin (Zarka) were reelected. Issa Madanat failed to get either of two Christian seats, which went to traditionalist Nazih Ammarin and conservative Hani Hijazin (Al Abd party). In Irbid, Deeb Marji, the leftist professor who won great support in 1989, decided not to run again for elections after having a fall-out with his party, the Jordanian Democratic Popular Unity Party. His fellow party member and editor of Al Ahal newspaper Jamil Nimri, lost his bid for the Christian seat to Nader Abu Shaer, a more traditional candidate.

Urban centres

The most obvious changes in popular representation can be seen in the larger districts such as Balqa, Irbid, Karak and Amman's Third and Fifth districts.

Of the four former deputies running for reelection in the five-seat Third District of Amman, only Taber Al Masri was successful. In the Fifth District all five incumbents were running for reelection, but only one, Hammam Saeed, an IAF candidate, won.

In Karak, six of the district's eight incumbents were running for reelection, but only two of them, Mahmoud Huweimel and Jamal Sarairoh (independent Islamists) won.

While the IAF did retain its one seat in Karak, independent Islamists like Youssef Mbeideen, Mutair Bustarji and Atef Btoush lost to right-of-centre candidates — Mansour Ben Tarif, Jamil Al Hashboush and Abdul Hadi Majali.

While the changes in Karak were expected, the changes in the Balqa district came as a surprise to most observers.

Six of the eight incumbents ran for reelection in the Balqa district, but only three were reelected. Two of the three were the Christian candidates and the third was Abdullah Ensour, the lowest-scoring Muslim candidate.

Many observers attribute the changes to the "Palestinian vote" that went to two Baqqa camp candidates. The other three seats could have been won by at least three of the four remaining candidates who were running for reelection, but neither IAF candidates Abdul Latif Arabiyat and Ibrahim Khreizat nor the independent Awmi Basbir were able to collect

sufficiently politicised or tribal votes to get reelected.

In the city of Salt, provisional centre of the Balqa district, tribal voters were so scattered that it allowed politicised candidates such as Ali Shatti (who got the secular Palestinian votes), Mohammad Oweida (Palestinian-Islamic votes), and Mustapha Sbeikat (leftist votes) to receive the top votes in the district.

In the city of Irbid, three of nine seats were retained by incumbent deputies. Ahmad Kofahi, Abdul Rahim Ekour and Yekatha party leader Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh.

In the old House, the Muslim Brotherhood — now the IAF — had three deputies in addition to two independent Islamists. That meant five of the district's eight Muslim seats were held by Islamists. The other three were held by Husni Shihab, a Pan-Arabist, and Thougani Hindawi and Mr. Rawabdeh, two right-of-centre politicians. The Christian seat was held by Mr. Marji.

On Nov. 8, two of four incumbent IAF candidates won reelection. One independent Islamist, Abdul Razak Tubeishat, also won. The two independent incumbent Islamist deputies, Mohammad Alawneh and Youssef Khasawneh, failed to get reelected.

Instead, centrist politicians and two former cabinet ministers in the government of Sheriff Zeid Ben Shaker won seats in Irbid. They are former Minister of Health Aref Bataineh, former Minister of Youth Saleh Irsheidan, and Saleh Shawata, Abdul Majeed Azzam, Mr. Rawabdeh and Nader Abu Shaer.

The bedouins

The three Bedouin districts, North, Centre, and South, went different ways in the sense that one changed both its former deputies (the south), one reelected both (the centre) and one changed one and retained one. As in the 1989 elections, the IAF, which ran one candidate in the North, was unable to penetrate the stronghold of bedouin voters who continued to vote for tribal favourites, only changing the older ones for younger more astute politicians.

The rural areas

In the Jerash District the two incumbent deputies, millionaire Issa Rimoni and

Arab nationalist Hussein Mujalli both lost their seats.

The successful Bani Hasan tribal candidate Mufleh Rubheimi is expected to have similar conservative views to those of the top winner in 1989, Issa Rimoni. While Mr. Rimoni belonged to no political party or group, Mr. Rubheimi is affiliated with the right-of-centre Al Abd Party led by Abdul Hadi Majali.

Lawyer Hussein Mujalli, a legal expert and sometimes hardline nationalist, has been replaced by an equally rejectionist but Islamist (IAF) candidate Suleiman Saad Al Khalaf, also a Rimoni.

In the Ajloun district the three veteran incumbents all lost in their reelection bid. The main change in the three-seat district is that an IAF member was elected replacing the Brotherhood-backed Christian deputy for the district, Jamal Haddadin.

Like in Jerash, the Ajloun candidate associated with Al Abd Party, Ahmad Qudah, won the highest number of votes. A traditionally conservative Christian clan candidate, Farah Al Rabadi, won the Christian seat.

In the Ramtha and Beni Kenana district all three elected deputies are new. Of the three incumbents only one, Qassem Obeidat, ran and lost.

While another Obeidat clan candidate — Talal Obeidat — won in his bid for a seat in Parliament, the other two deputies-elect differ greatly from their predecessors.

Former deputies Saleem Zoubi and Mohammad Dardour who previously represented Ramtha in the Lower House were both active pan-Arab nationalists who engaged actively in parliamentary debates and led votes of dissent on economic and political policies and were active in the anti-corruption investigations conducted by the 11th Parliament.

The two new deputies that replaced Mr. Zoubi and Mr. Dardour are Mr. Fawaz Al Zoubi and Ibrahim Samara Al Zoubi. They are both affiliated to right-of-centre political parties.

In the Koura and Northern Valley district, one of the two incumbents, Nader Thuahrat, was reelected in a district where relatively unpoliticised clan votes usually dominate the election results. IAF incumbent Abdul Majeed Shreideh failed to get reelected partly because of a lack of tribal consensus.

He lost his seat to Hatem Ghzawi, an outside candidate who has less tribal support than the Shreidehs, but was able to capitalise on the tribal fractures within other clans to win a seat in Parliament.

The five seats in the Maan Governorate were won by newcomers, with one exception, Abdul Karim Kabarid.

The one IAF seat previously held by Youssef Al Athem (who did not seek reelection) was won by IAF candidate Badre Riati, who got the lowest number of votes among the five winners in this district. As in 1989, voters in this relatively economically deprived district elected centrist candidates to represent them.

In Tafileh, two of the incumbent deputies ran for reelection. The IAF's Abdullah Akaleh won his bid and independent Ibrahim Ghababshah lost. In 1989 this district elected two Muslim Brotherhood members, Mr. Akaleh and Fuad Khalafat, along with the independent Mr. Ghababshah. This year the people of Tafileh chose the liberal former royal press advisor, Mohammad Daoudieh, and right-of-centre Rabea Saud.

Both the districts of Mafrqa and Zarka proved exceptional in this past election for they were the only "larger" districts that reelected most of the incumbents.

In Zarka, four of the six incumbents were reelected in what appeared to be a major vote of confidence for the former deputies. The two incumbent IAF candidates, Mohammad Al Haj and Theib Anis, were reelected. A third IAF candidate, Bassam Emoush, also won. Independent tribal candidate Salameh Ghweiri lost his seat to a candidate who won tribal Palestinian votes — Fayad Jarrar.

Chechen deputy and independent Islamist Abdul Baqi Gammo and Christian leftist Bassam Haddadin both kept their seats in the House.

In Mafrqa, liberal Abdul Karim Al Dughmi and conservative Mohammad Abu Oleim both kept their popular and tribal electorate to get themselves reelected. A lack of consensus on a candidate from the Khawaldeh clan and a consensus among the Rashideh clans left Nawaf Al Khawaldeh out of Parliament and Abdullah Akhou Irsheideh in. The political balance in this district did not change at all.

COLUMN 8

Drunk passenger forces plane to land

ABU DHABI (AFP) — A Gulf Air jet on a scheduled flight from Amsterdam to Colombo made an emergency landing at Abu Dhabi Airport after a drunk passenger caused pandemonium, local newspapers reported Friday. The pilot of the airliner, which had around 100 people on board, radioed the airport to ask for permission to land and discharge an inebriated Sri Lankan. The man had been annoying other passengers during the flight Thursday, the papers said. The drunk man was taken away by airport security men and the plane resumed its journey.

Audrey Hepburn's brooch brings over \$50,000

GENEVA (AP) — A sapphire and diamond brooch left by the late Audrey Hepburn to benefit the Motion Picture Actors Home in Los Angeles was auctioned Thursday for 80,000 Swiss francs (\$53,333), double its estimated value. The identity of the purchaser of the actress' brooch, signed by Bulgari of Rome, wasn't immediately known, said a spokeswoman for the auctioneer, Christie's. The purchaser is also required to pay an auctioneer's commission of 12,000 francs (\$8,000). Hepburn, who worked to help starving children in her final years, died of cancer at her home in the Lake Geneva community of Tolochenaz last Jan. 20. She specified that the brooch should be sold to benefit the home. The brooch, an oval-cut sapphire weighing 20.58 carats surrounded by a cluster of pear-shaped diamonds, was estimated before the auction to be worth 30,000-40,000 francs (\$20,000-\$26,667).

Stalin's 'living' portrait

MOSCOW (AP) — A portrait of Josef Stalin continued a life of its own long after the Soviet dictator's death, emanating glowing radioactivity, officials said Wednesday. The engraving of Stalin on a metal plate was covered by a layer of radium with a radioactive level of 200,000 microcuries, about 10,000 times higher than the normal level, according to nuclear safety officials. The engraving was presented as a gift to Stalin from collective farmers of Soviet Central Asia in 1944 and was stored in the Revolution Museum. The radioactive substance was used to make the portrait glow. The portrait was recently buried at a special dump site near Moscow when the danger was detected. It was not known when the portrait was last on display.

About half of Canada's women report abuse

OTTAWA (AP) — About half of Canadian women 18 and older say they have suffered physical or sexual abuse at the hands of men, according to a survey of 12,300 women. Even when minor incidents like unwanted sexual touching were excluded, 42 per cent of the women said they were victims of violence, said Statistics Canada, which conducted the survey. One in four experienced violence at the hands of a current or past marital partner. The survey, released Thursday, was conducted between February and June. Women were asked in telephone interviews whether they had experienced violence at the hands of strangers or men they knew from age 16 onward. The study defined violence as incidents of sexual or physical assault that could result in charges, ranging from unwanted touching to attempted sexual intercourse. Statistics Canada said its findings were accurate to within one percentage point. The most prevalent forms of marital violence reported were pushing, grabbing and shoving, followed by threats, slapping, kicking, biting and hitting with fists. Women were more likely to be assaulted by men they knew than by a stranger. Many victims more than once. And alcohol was often a prominent factor in household violence, the survey found.